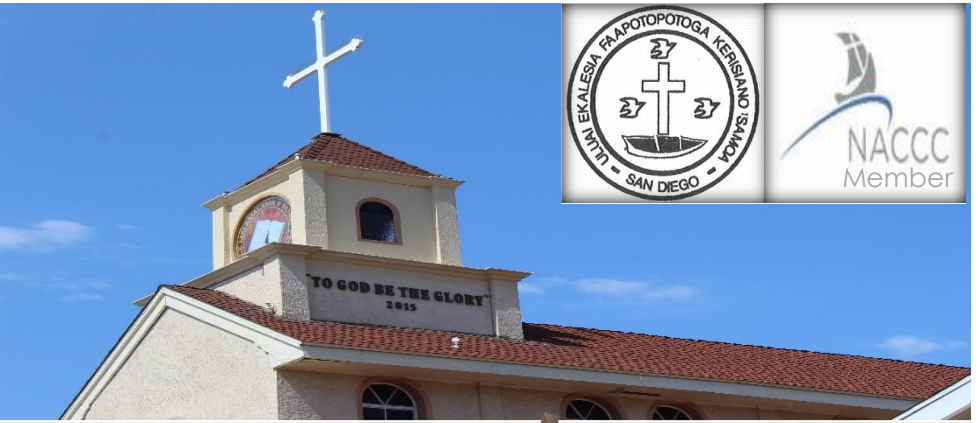


in this issue >>>

Issue #7
Aug 2021



Confirmation Classes Starting Soon

Member Spotlight: Mrs. Lagituaiva Ugaitafā

A Little Garden Nook- Calling All Gardeners

FSCCCSD Little Lambs- little bodies, big examples

In His Service- be a part of the body in action

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 | fscccsd@gmail.com • www.fscccsd.com

A word from our Minister...

“Not to us, O LORD, not to us,
But to Your Name give Glory
Because of Your
Lovingkindness,
Because of Your Truth...
Our God is in the Heavens;
He does whatever He pleases...
O Israel, trust in the LORD;
He is their Help and their
Shield.”
(Psalm 115:1, 3 & 9)

Fa’amālō i le Tapua’iga Malu o aiga, uo ma ‘au meamamae o le Tino o Keriso, o avea ai outou ma Lamepa Susulu, po o Molimau fo’i o le Tala Lelei o le Fa’aolataga ia Iesu Keriso. Talitonu o lo’o vaeluatutusa so tatou manuia, i so’o se tafa o lenei A’ai, ma le Lalolagi o lo’o afifio ma pāpā a’ao ai. Fa’afetai i auala saunia e Le Atua ua mafai ona maua atu ai lenei auanaga. Mālō le Soifua Maua ma le Lagi Mamā; Mālō le Tauata’i!
Mua ia le vi’iga ma le fa’amanū i lo tatou Tapa’au Sili ona o fa’amanuiaga sautualasi o lo’o sasa’a fa’aaua, mo Lana Fanau i lea aso ma lea aso. Amene!
O le Tatalo mo le Masina Fou o lo’o a’ea’e mai luga mauga, ia manuia la tatou folauga, ia tusa ai ma le Finagalo o Le Atua taupulega ma fa’amoemoega o la tatou auanaga fa’ale-Ekalesia, aiga ma so’o se fa’apopotoga ma galuega o mafuta atu iai Lana Fanau. Ia maua pea le soifua mālōlōina i Mātua, alo ma fanau o le Ekalesia, ia taumamao ni pulupulusia

ma ni gasegase, a ia fa’afualoaina lo outou soifua i le fiafia ma le filemu o Keriso.

Greetings to our Church Family in the Name of Christ Jesus our Savior Lord. We Praise God for every new day that His Love, Grace and Mercy, revealed and blessed, in your family’s daily lives and surroundings.

We are pleased to continue providing Monthly information regarding events and happenings in and around our Church. A special THANK YOU to Mrs Siupolu Niumata - our Church’s Financial Secretary - for taking on the laborious task of putting together amazing editions - hopefully not too tiresome but very fulfilling - of our Church Newsletter.

Our Prayer before God as your Ministry Family is always: for every household to receive Christ Jesus, as their personal Lord and Savior, and to live out of His Love, Grace, Mercy and Peace every day.

“Ia fa’amanuia oe e Ieova, ma Ia na tausi ia te oe; ia fa’amalamalamaina e Ieova Ona Fofoga i luga ia te oe, ma alofa atu ia te oe; ia fa’asaga mai o Ieova Ona Fofoga ia te oe, ma tu’uina atu ia te oe le manuia.” (Numera/Numbers 6: 24-26)

*God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”
John 4:24*

O Le Tapuaiga i Le Atua/ Worshiping God

- **Sundays** - 8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29
- **9:45am** - Pre-Worship (8/1, 8/25)
- **10:00am** - O le Tapua’iga/ Worship
- Live Streamed on our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/MalamalamaoSamoa>
- Fa’amanatuga / Communion is held every first Sunday of the month.

- Rev. Fa’afuina & Mrs. Tuitogama’atoe Solomon.

Pastoral Matters

Wonderful to share Worship with some visiting friends of the "Malamalama o Samoa" in our July Worship:



***Sunday, 11 July 2021 - Rev. Drs. David and Susan Gray** (Retired Ministers, now worshipping and serving at the First Congregational Church – Hanson, Massachusetts). David has been a long time friend of our Church, dating back to the Ministry of the Late Elder Rev Dr Fa'afouina & Tuimatagi Iofi, who were also friends of David's Father, the Late Rev Dr Henry Gray. David has served in Ministry across the country in the National Association, most recently prior to retirement, as the Senior Minister of the Congregational Church of the Messiah, Los Angeles for 17 years. CCM is where **Rev. Moegagogo & Nina Solomona** serve in Ministry.

***Sunday, 25 July 2021 – Rev. Matthew & Mary Oladele (Christ To The Villages Mission - Nigeria).** Matthew last visited our Congregation in 2013, and was able to join us last month in Worship with his wife Mary. God has called them to serve to Christ To The Villages Mission in their home of Nigeria, where they work faithfully and joyfully, bringing the Love and Truth of the Good News of Jesus Christ to those in their region. Matthew shared a timely and important word for our Congregation. Christ To The Villages Mission in Nigeria is one of the International Missions that our Church supports. **Olushola (Matthew) and Titilayo (Mary)** send their Greetings and Thanks to our Church for the Welcome, Love and Generosity.



<http://www.christtothevillages.org/>



***Saturday, 24 July 2021 –** Praise God for and a Very Happy Birthday to **Rosemarie Donahue** who celebrated her 87th Birthday. May God continue to grant you Health, Peace and Faith, and Bless you always.

*With the Sunday School having recently studied "Holy Communion" as part of their Curriculum for this year, there have been some questions regarding **Confirmation Classes (A'oga Saili).**

In response, I will be offering Two Confirmation Classes for our Congregation in August, with a view to **Confirmation on Communion Sunday, 5 September 2021 (Aso Sa Tala Lelei / Gospel Sunday)**

- (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.



FONO TATALO
Every Saturday Morning in
the Sanctuary 8:00am
(8/7, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28)



WE PRAY FOR:

- *The Needs of our Nation and World...
- *Thank you Lord for the Resolution of the Political Situation in Samoa, for Your Spirit's Leading that has led to Peace and Progress for our Home Islands....
- * Healing for those who are afflicted with the Pandemic, and especially for our Communities and Nation: Patience, Diligence and Wisdom as we face a new spike in COVID 19 Cases....

Our Congregation:

- *Every Household and our Membership....
Our Elders, our Families, our Youth and Children...
- *Those who are facing Health Challenges:
Lagituaiava, Matavai, Tiana, Liva, Rosemarie, Matua, Fagalima, Moeifaga, Mase, Brenda, Vitolio, Julia, LeAnn, Elaine, John, Nora, Loretta, Jade.....Merapi, Manusamoa, Leiloa, Taotafa, Afoafouvale, Etenauga, Angie, Grace, Karite, Anthony, Janet, Don and Brittany....
- *Those who are Grieving the Passing of Loved Ones....
- *Those who are Traveling...
- *Those who are struggling in life with Work, Family, Faith, Personal Issues and Relationships....
- *The Work of our Church this Month of August...
- *Our Church Leadership and Branches and all our efforts in 2021*

Click [here](#) to submit a Prayer Request on our website. Your prayer requests will be received by Rev. Solomona

Around Town at FSCCCSD...

A LITTLE GARDEN NOOK



Do you have an interest in gardening?
 Would you like to help with the courtyard plants and shrubs?
 Do you have a vision of how a beautiful garden would look like

I am a reluctant gardener who has not inherited my family's green thumb. Plus, I'm allergic to bees. However, I believe that God has generously blessed us, with such an amazing piece of land that, many Churches can only but dream of.



Please help me to create a garden not just in the courtyard, but right around our Fanua, that generations after us, will find pleasure in as we have benefitted from the labor of love on these hallowed grounds, by those who came before us.



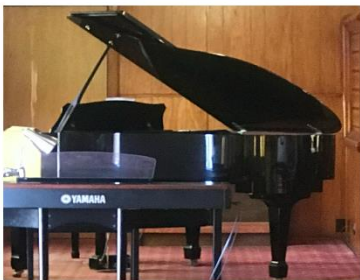
I am putting to Prayer a day like "Arbor Day" where we will come together as a Church to plant a shrub, a bush or tree in memory of loved ones.

(Here is the catch, you'll be responsible to take care of your plant!)

-Tuitogama'atooe Solomona. (Reluctant Gardener)



A Beautiful Gift To Make Music Unto the Lord
Baby Grand Piano
 6/20/21



Member Spotlight...

Mrs. Lagituaiva Ugaitafā



Lagi was born in Ta'u, Manu'a on February 10, 1939. After Lagi completed the 8th grade, she moved to Tutuila to attend high school. Lagi graduated from the High School of American Samoa on July 7, 1960. Later that year after graduation, Lagi made the journey to the U.S. and arrived in L.A. on September 24, 1960. Lagi moved to San Diego which would become her permanent residence. Her first day of church here at FSCCCSD was on October 9, 1960 and she's still going strong, praise the Lord! Lagi married her beloved Iata Ugaitafā on November 30, 1961 and together

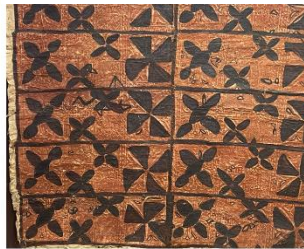
they have 7 children. Lagi worked hard to help provide for her family. She was a fulltime CNA and most of the time held down 2 jobs. Lagi imparts her wisdom upon her Church Family and advises all of us to get along, to love each other, and to have a good attitude. And to believe this: e te mafaia mea uma i le mafuta mai o le Atua. Ia e fa'atuatua ma fa'alagolago i le Atua. With God, all things are possible...Have faith in and lean on Him.

Tapa Cloth Art Donation

On 7/14/21, we received a kind donation of 2 tapa cloths mounted on large frames from Maura Harvey. The dimensions of the artwork is approximately 6'x7.5'. Maura shared her mother, an art consultant, came across the tapa cloth in a warehouse in L.A. and knew exactly what it was.



Maura's happy to have found a home for them as they've been in her family for 68 years. Tinā says the tapa pieces are great and they just need to be oiled and protected. Tinā has also contacted her resources to see if they can pin point the origin of the tapa pieces. Stay tuned for an update...

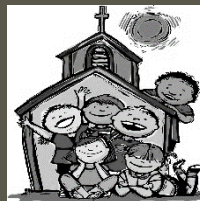


FSCCCSD Little Lambs

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

How do you show God's love to others?

- I can pray for others and spread His Word!
 -Humble Fa'alave-Johnson, 15 years old
- Pray for people to be kind and to be nice.
 -Oliva Auimatagi III, 4 years old
- By loving and helping them.
 - Matalasi Solomuli, 6 years old



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

- 5th: Julia Epati
- 5th: Hanalei Iuta
- 8th: Samoa Koria
- 10th: Calise Niumata
- 14th: Leumele Tafao
- 14th: Stanley Fa'asua Jr
- 18th: Amiel Hollins
- 20th: Oxford Letuli
- 23rd: Aislyn Fa'alave
- 30th: Ann Amu
- 30th: Toluali'i Lefiti

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

In His Service...



Auā 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

AUGUST 2021 Sanctuary Cleaning Schedule



- 8/1: Lauamio luta
- 8/8: Oliva Auimatagi III
- 8/15: Jonah Perry
- 8/22: Fagalima Savaiinaea
- 8/27: Saronā Sotoa-Toluao

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

Special gratitude to all the hands that helped keep our sanctuary and property clean throughout the pandemic. May God bless the work of your hands and the faithful service of your heart, now and always.

CHURCH BINGO IS PERMANENTLY CLOSED...

...as passed by the Congregation in the monthly Church meeting on 7/11/21. Click [here](#) to read the full memo from 7/12/21.

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 7:30pm



CHURCH WALKING GROUP

BACK IN MOTION

**Saturdays
6:30am-7:30am**

FITNESS & FELLOWSHIP
COME JOIN US!



Bingo Squares Annual Church Fundraiser

Event Date: 9/4/2021 at 12pm (FB Live)

!!We're in the final weeks to get our bingo squares sold, funds collected and turned in!!

Please Venmo our Treasurer @Mele-Tafao with a comment of "Bingo Squares".

Got questions or want to purchase a square?

Contact the Secretary, Siatu'u Eli at

619-534-5666 or email at tuueli@cox.net.

\$20 per Square

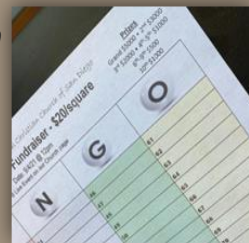
Grand \$5000 • 2nd \$3000

3rd \$2000 • 4th-5th \$1000

6th-9th \$500 • 10th \$1000

Proceeds will go towards our solar initiative and other church projects.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Sunday School Updates...



8/1- Sunday School Parent Teacher Meeting immediately following Communion Service

8/14- Plate Sale Fundraiser. Details in the flyer below. Click [here](#) to place your order on our Church FB page.



8/15 - No Sunday School



8/20 @ 6:30pm- Family Escape Game Evening. Join us for a time of fun and fellowship!

Lotu Tamaiti practices starting soon, stay tuned for dates and times!



~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 fscccsd@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		
Solar	Balance of \$62,000	Church Fundraiser	



FSCCCS D Sunday School

**Saturday
8/14/21**

Place an order on our FB Church page by clicking [here](#).

PLATE SALE FUNDRAISER

\$15 per plate. Includes chicken, chop suey, polish sausage, potato salad, rice, dessert, water.

proceeds will go toward Sunday School initiatives. Thank you for your support!

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:

June 2021 – Congregational Church of Myanmar. \$1566.00 gifted.

July 2021 – Hosanna Industries \$1230.00 gifted.

August 2021 – Mission School of Hope in Cameroon (will be listed in September's FSCCCSD Connect issue)

Click [here](#) to visit the Missions page on our website.



A message FROM PASTOR ELVIS SA DO:

6 July 2021

Congregational Church of Myanmar
Heartbreaking news - this is official!
At least 60 Pastors from Kalay Myo and

chin state have died due to COVID in June and July,

Please pray for their families and churches!

Indeed total numbers is 70 Pastors but not yet received some of their names!

Rev Elvis Sa Do attached a roster 60 names of the pastors who passed away.

PLEASE KEEP REV ELVIS SA DO AND FAMILY, THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MYANMAR (one of the International Missions that we support) AND THOSE IN THE REGION IN YOUR PRAYERS IN THIS DIFFICULT TIME.



(Students: Siulia Hollins, Oxford Letuli, Cali Niumata, Calise Niumata, Kingston Osoimalo, Ofisa Pinones, Joel Tuimaleali'ifano)

FISH TO FAMILIES
Free Meal Distribution for ALL in need

San Diego Caught Fish
Hot Meals Prepared
Then distributed at
Guam Club

San Diego Foundation, CRAET, Father Joe's Villages, Sea Grant, Socially Orange, POC June Hawkins 619-655-2782

Pick Up 3:45-4:45pm Every Tuesday & Thursday
334 Willie James Jones Ave, San Diego, Ca 92102

If your family or any families you know could benefit from receiving these meals, please contact Rev. Solomona by 2pm on Tuesdays.

Since the beginning of the year, Ms. Mele and Ms. Polu's Sunday School class (5-7 year olds) collected offering virtually and then in person during class. Ms. Mele and the class planned to donate the offering to a charity of choice. On Sunday, July 25th, with the guidance of Tinā, the class offering was donated to the children of Christ to the Villages Mission in Nigeria. Rev. Matthew and Mary Oladele received it with grateful hearts. God bless our children and all the children around the world.



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 fsccsd@gmail.com to include your Business/Service information in future Connect issues)

PROTECT your family's FUTURE!

- Income Replacement
- Living Benefits
- Education Planning
- Tax Free Retirement
- Death Benefits

NORA APE
(619) 200-4351

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Aokuso/August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>♦8:30am: Sunday School</p> <p>♦10:00am: O Le Fa'amanatuga/ Communion</p> <p>♦Parent/Teacher Meeting (after worship)</p>	2	3	<p>4</p> <p>♦7:00pm: Zoom Bible Studies</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>♦6:00pm: Church Board Meeting</p> <p>♦6:30pm: ASD Choir Practice</p>	6	<p>7</p> <p>♦6:30: Walking Grp</p> <p>♦8:00am: Prayer Mtg. (Sanctuary)</p> <p>♦10:00am: Chancel Choir Practice</p> 
<p>8</p> <p>♦8:30am: Sunday School</p> <p>♦10:00am: O Le Tapua'iga/ Worship</p> <p>♦Church Mtg after Worship</p>	9	10	<p>11</p> <p>♦7:00pm: Zoom Bible Studies</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>♦6:30pm: ASD Choir Practice</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p>♦6:30: Walking Grp</p> <p>♦8:00am: Prayer Mtg.(Sanctuary)</p> <p>♦10:00am: Chancel Choir Practice</p> <p>♦11:30am – 1:00pm: Sunday School Plate Sale</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>♦8:30am: NO Sunday School</p> <p>♦10:00am: O Le Tapua'iga/ Worship</p> <p>♦Lafoga/ Maintenance Offering</p>	16	17	<p>18</p> <p>♦7:00pm: Zoom Bible Studies</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>♦6:30pm: ASD Choir Practice</p>	<p>20</p> <p>♦6:00pm Sun School Family Escape Room Evening</p>	<p>21</p> <p>♦6:30: Walking Grp</p> <p>♦8:00am: Prayer Mtg. (Sanctuary)</p> <p>♦10:00am: Chancel Choir Practice</p> 
<p>22</p> <p>♦8:30am: Sunday School</p> <p>♦10:00am: O Le Tapua'iga/ Worship</p>	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>♦7:00pm: Zoom Bible Studies</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>♦6:30pm: ASD Choir Practice</p> <p>♦7:30pm: Praise Team Practice</p>	27	<p>28</p> <p>♦6:30: Walking Grp</p> <p>♦8:00am: Prayer Mtg. (Sanctuary)</p> <p>♦10:00am: Chancel Choir Practice</p> 
<p>29</p> <p>♦8:30am: Sunday School</p> <p>♦10:00am: O Le Tapua'iga/ Worship (Lay Preachers Sunday)</p>	30	31	<p>Our Mission Giving for this month will go to: Mission School of Hope in Cameroon Rev. Charles Sagay Mission School of Hope is located in the eastern province of Cameroon and serves under privileged and marginalized people in nearby and remote villages. Click here for more information on the Missions we support.</p>			