

“THE WEAPONS WE FIGHT WITH ARE NOT THE WEAPONS OF THE WORLD. ON THE CONTRARY, THEY HAVE DIVINE POWER TO DEMOLISH STRONGHOLDS.” *2 Corinthians 10:4*

We are in a war. When you read this your mind might automatically allude to the war on terror fought across the globe. Perhaps you might think of the influence society has on our children such as the war on drugs. Even still, you might think of an intense personal conflict you've had recently with ones you love.

While these types of wars are a reflection of the world we live in, I'm talking about the battle that has been against you since you were born. That is, the battle for your soul.

The reality is, Satan is the god of this world (*2 Corinthians 4:4*) and the whole world is under the control of the evil one (*1 John 5:19*). He has been fighting relentlessly to prevent you from being the light, but he has failed. We have been saved through faith in Christ! Hallelujah! But the battle does not stop there – He will try everything in his power to make you an ineffective witness. That is, to have your light shine so dim that others cannot see it.

Thankfully, greater is the Holy Spirit within each of us than the enemy who wages war against us (*1 John 4:4*). Being part of the family of God gives us a new identity in Christ and authority from Christ. Jesus said we now have the authority over the power of the enemy (*Luke 10:19*), so what does this mean for us?

We have to recognize that the enemy is a liar. He will try his hardest to have you believe lies about who you are and God's goodness to you - so much so, that you may believe the lie as perceived truth! You may have had thoughts run through your mind about how you are not loving, important, talented enough, etc., to be what God has called you to be. Possibly you are in a tough situation and you feel that it will never change. We all face thoughts like these and we are not supposed to sit back and assume "that's how it's supposed to be." Instead, we are instructed to stand our ground by speaking life from what the Word of God says about our current circumstances. This is resisting Satan's schemes and he has to flee (*James 4:7*). What area of your life is Satan trying to tear down?

We have to remember that the enemy is likened to a lion prowling around to devour his prey (*1 Peter 5:8*). This illustration gives us insight on the enemy's strategy. A lion wants to attack the prey that is the easiest to get to, the one who has been separated from the herd. Likewise, we are susceptible to the attacks of the enemy when we are isolated from others. We can easily fall into depression, loneliness, and negative thinking when we are not surrounded by godly people. This is why the family of God is so important – to stand by each believer so the enemy will not take advantage of anyone. We are to encourage and care for one another. Unity is a powerful tool that allows us to fight from the victory Christ gave us.

Lastly, I'd encourage you to read Ephesians 6:10-18 to get a complete picture of the full armor of God to protect yourself in this battle we face everyday. Always remember that you are a powerful force to be reckoned with- not because of what you've done, but because of who He is!

Sincerely,
Pastor Nathan Cherney



NEWS BRIEFS

Our congratulations to Osup & Sara Kwon on the birth of their first child, a son, **Elias Kiyun Fee Tetsu Kwon**, was born on April 26. He weighed in at 7 lbs., 10 oz. and was 20.75 inches. Mother and son are doing well.



Thanks to **Denise Huang** for composing and leading in singing a RAP song on the Family of God on April 30.



Good to see **Eric & Lucy Kaneshiro**, whom we support as missionaries working with EPIC, the Asian-American arm of CRU (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ) on May 7.

Yuji Takaba will be serving with InterVarsity's Ministry to the Los Angeles inner city for six weeks this summer. Please be in prayer for him as he prepares and raises funds.

Many thanks to **Hideo & Myrtle Shimoda** for the donation of a keyboard for our church use. Appreciate your generosity!

AWANA held their Box Car Derby on May 13. Congratulations to all who submitted a car. Speed Awards: 1st - **Bennett Olney**, 2nd - **Phoebe Doan**, 3rd - **Zoe DeBenning**. Design Awards: 1st - **Jackson Smith**, 2nd - **Daniel Tritasavit**, 3rd - **Jedidiah Thompson**.

The Well (the Young Adult Ministry) enjoyed an evening at the beach on May 20.

Youth Ministry hosted an evening of thanks to parents on May 20. Great job by the youth who

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

...those who are serving in **MIS-SIONS**: **Sara Kwon** (U. of Tenn. with InterVarsity); **Rob, Denise & Cori Anne Tang** (Thailand with ZOE Ministries).

...those military personnel serving our country--**Keaton Frey and Andrew Sumida** (Navy), **Julie Akiyama and Robert Sugai** (Army).

planned the event, cooked food and decorated. We have the greatest parents!

Congratulations to two who have reached their 100th birthday! **Fusako Miyamura**, on May 22, and **Mitsue Nishio**, on May 27. God bless you!

Congratulations to **Mrs. Kaoru Mulvihill** and her sons who were the designees of the house we are helping build in Culver City with Habitat for Humanity project.

MOPS (Mothers of PreSchoolers) enjoyed a Spa Day on May 22. The massages were thoroughly enjoyed!

We participated in the Community Memorial Day Service at Westlawn Cemetery in Santa Monica on May 29.

Please pray for **Rob & Denise Tang** who sense God's calling to return home and to end their nine year ministry in Thailand with ZOE International. They will be returning this summer. Please pray for them as they make the transition back to So. Cal. (ZOE International asks those who have been supporting them to please continue to do so through the end of this year to assist in their transition.)

We are participating in the Venice Japanese Community Center Festival on June 24 & 25. If you can man one of our booths you will be helping us reach out to our community. Please call the church office to sign up.

THIS MONTH

THE RALPH LAZO STORY: June 2

Senior Adult and Youth Ministries are hosting the showing of this compelling story of a high school

student who chose to go to the Internment Camps with his Japanese-American friends in 1942. His life is an inspiration. 12:00 p.m. Please call the church office to sign up.

AWANA CLUB MINISTRY: June 2 & 9

AWANA (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed, from 2 Timothy 2:15) meets on Friday nights at 7 p.m. June 9 is their Closing Ceremony. AWANA will start up again in the fall.

THE "GOD SPOT" MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP: June 3

The first Saturday of every month "God Spot" meets as a support to couples committed to marriage. We are following FamilyLife's "The Art of Marriage-Getting to the Heart of God's Design". For potluck info and to RSVP, contact VeniceCouples@gmail.com. Childcare provided. Time: 6:30 p.m.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: June 3, 10 & 17

Fellowship nights and other events are fun & inspirational. Make sure your youth is a part of this faith building experience. For more details of all youth events email youth@venicechurch.org.

ParentEEN: June 10

The next meeting of PT will be the second of two parts on the theme "Adolescent Spiritual Formation". Pastor Stan Nishikubo will be sharing on "Rules, Relationships, Results". For more details email youth@venicechurch.org

CONVALESCENT HOME MINISTRY: June 18

Once a month we minister to the residents at the Santa Monica Convalescent Hospital at 2 p.m. Want to participate? Contact Wayne Ginoza at 310-963-4681 or wayne.ginoza@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: June 24

We will be part of the Mar Vista Gardens Community Day Fair. It will be a fun day with face painting, children's games and more. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. If you can help out, please sign up in the main hallway at church or call the church office.

ADVANCED NOTICE

FAMILY CAMP: July 16 - 21

Are you doing some long range planning? Remember to include our Annual Family Camp at Redwood Christian Park in your plans. The theme is "Witness". You will be blessed! **REGISTER NOW!** Go to <http://www.pjcfm.org/youth-and-family-events/> to sign up. Last day to register before late fees: **June 9**. Registration closes on June 30. If

you want to ride our chartered bus please sign up ASAP. Subsidized price of \$50 for persons who attend our church. Family rates available.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: July 31-August 4

Vacation Bible School is a huge PLUS for children. Save the dates for a very blessed time. Email kids@venicechurch.org for registration info.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

A time of prayer for God's Spirit to be released in our church and community is being held on the 1st Thursday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the home of Jim & Suzanne Miyabe. Everyone is invited. Also "Call to Pray" will be available every third Saturday from 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. in the Cottage. All welcome to attend.

CULVER PALMS MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Volunteer drivers are needed to deliver meals to home of people who are incapacitated due to age or disability on the Westside. Call 310/559-0666 if you would like to help.

WESTCHESTER PLAYA VILLAGE

WPV assists seniors with activities like grocery shopping, a ride to and from appointments home

visits, etc. Volunteers are sought to make a difference in their lives. Call the church office for info.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON SUNDAY

Every 1st Sunday of the month is Fellowship Luncheon Sunday. Please join us after the 2nd worship service for a wonderful time of fellowship and for a delicious meal prepared by members of the Hospitality Ministry.

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Our two English worship services start at 8:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. English language Sunday school is held at 8:45 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. (Call the church office for more info on Sunday Youth & Children's Ministry schedules or visit our website at venicechurch.org.) The Japanese language Sunday school is at 10:30 a.m. and their worship service starts at 11:45 a.m. Visit their website at venicechurchjp.jimdo.com for more info.

MISS A WORSHIP SERVICE?

Did you miss a worship service because you were ill or out of town? You can hear the messages or order a CD from our website at venicechurch.org. You can also access this newsletter (the "Seabreeze") at our website and much, much more! (Please let Michelle Stultz in the church

office know if you access the Seabreeze off the web and don't need one mailed to your home.)

SEABREEZE FORMATTING

We are in need of a person to format this publication each month. If you have a desire to share the ministry of our church with our church family and community contact the church office.

MEMORIAL OFFERINGS

In Memory of **Mr. Paul Matsuoka** - Mrs. Nancy Tahata.

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathies to the family of **Mr. Paul Matsuoka** who passed away on May 13. May God be a source of much peace to you all.

Our condolences to the family of **Mrs. Tomiye Matsumiya** who passed away on May 17. May God be of much comfort to the entire family.

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An Opportunity for Outreach & Fun at Mar Vista Gardens Housing Project

Our church is invited to participate again this year. Service opportunities include:

- 2 to 3 people who can face-paint
- Set up and/or take down of pop-up canopies, tables, chairs
- 2 people at Bean bag toss game
- 2 people at VBS registration & gospel tract table
- One or more Spanish translators

Sign up in the hallway or contact Pam Magnuson at outreach@venicechurch.org. Come to the info / planning meeting on Sunday, June 11 after second service in room 6.

PULSE Student Ministry | Venice FMC

JUNE EVENTS

- **AWANA Nights for June are 2 and 9 (AWANA Fair)**
- **June 3 (Sat) 12:00 - 3:00 PM - Special Lunch with SAM (Senior Adult Ministry)** Featuring a video on the Ralph Lazo story, "Stand Up for Justice" about his time at Manzanar. Select Seniors (Paul Sumida, Chiyeko Kamisato, and Kiku Kubo) will also be sharing about their experience. A headcount is needed to know how many pizzas to order! RSVP to Linda
- **June 3 (Sat) 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM - VBS Training #1**
- **June 8 (Thurs) 6:30 p.m. - VFMC has VJCC newsletter stapling**
- **June 10 (Sat) 7:00 - 9:30 PM - Youth Group: Senior Night and ParentTEEN** - Pastor Stan Nishikubo - Adolescent Spiritual Formation (Part 2).
- **June 16 (Fri) 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM - Summer Series: Christian, It's Not What You Think**, by Andy Stanley. Please bring money for dinner at Centinela Café
- **June 17 (Sat) 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM - End of Year Banquet**
- **June 23 (Fri) 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM - Summer Series: Christian, It's Not What You Think**, by Andy Stanley. Please bring money for dinner at Centinela Café
- **June 24-25 (Sat and Sun) VJCC Festival**
- **June 26-28 Student Leadership Team Conference/Retreat** - at APU (note location change). <https://studentleadershipconference.com>
- **June 30 (Fri) 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM - Summer Series: Christian, It's Not What You Think**, by Andy Stanley. Please bring money for dinner at Centinela Café

Follow us on Instagram: PULSEvfmcc
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/veniceyouth/>
Email: youth@venicechurch.org



P.U.L.S.E. = Protected, United, Loved, Saved, Empowered

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CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE:

We've got a new online location at:

<http://www.venicechurch.org>

It has our news and events! This newsletter, "Seabreeze," is also here. Let us know if you receive the Seabreeze off the web and don't need one mailed to your home. Also, Pastor Jim's sermons are available there via Podcast or through its media player.

Seabreeze

TEMP - RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

VENICE FREE METHODIST CHURCH
4871 CENTINELA AVENUE
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