

# YAM Chat

A Newsletter for Young Adult Ministries, FCBC-LA

March 2008

## YAM CHAT HIGHLIGHT: FCBC Missions Conference

By Pastor Danny Moore

In April, FCBC will hold its bi-annual Missions Conference. Our theme is "Impact Our World." The conference will feature special guest speakers in our worship services each week who will encourage us to take up the challenge of impacting our world for Christ. On the first three Sundays of April, there will also be opportunities to learn from different missionaries and church leaders who will share with us from their own experiences and offer training seminars both during Sunday School hours and in the

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## PASTOR'S CORNER: The Trap of "Virtual Community"

Today, technology allows us to be more "connected" than we have ever been before. Cell phones and text messaging have created a world where we are instantly available to each other 24/7. Websites such as Youtube, Facebook and Myspace make it possible for us to share our most intimate thoughts and experiences with hundreds, if not thousands, of people many whom we may not have even met. We can have internet conversations with people on the other side of the world as easily as we can with the person in the room next door. With so much accessibility to each other's lives and so many options available to "talk" with people, why do so many people feel lonely today? In fact, recent surveys show that today's young adults identify "dealing with loneliness" as their #1 challenge. How can the the most "connected" generation in the history of mankind also be the most lonely?

Part of the answer to this question is that people have substituted virtual community for genuine community. The information highway was designed to do just that, channel information. It is highly successful in performing this task. It was, however, never designed to be a substitute for real community. As has already been noted, many attempts have been made to adapt the new technology to achieve community with differing degrees of success. The fact remains,

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING!

### MARCH

#### **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: "SURRENDER"**

Come for a time of guided personal reflection and prayer on the meaning of Christ's death on the cross and then join together for a time of worship and meditation on God's Word

When: **Fri, Mar 21, 7:30-9:30pm**

Where: New Sanctuary

#### **COMFY COZY CORNER**

An opportunity for young adult sisters to fellowship together and to meet and learn from the wisdom and experience of an adult sister in Christ

When: **Sat, Mar 29, 9 am-noon**

Where: 930 Hillvale dr, MPK, 91754

### APRIL

#### **FCBC MISSIONS EMPHASIS MONTH**

During the entire month of April there will be a variety of workshops, speakers, and service opportunities offered as our church focuses on missions. Take advantage of this great opportunity to expand your borders and build God's kingdom.

### MAY

#### **YAM YARDSALE**

Come help support the fight against human trafficking. You can bring things to sell and/or help out in sales and publicizing the issue.

When: **Fri nite, May 9 and Sat morn., May 10**

#### **MEN-4-MISSION**

Young adult men can join with other men traveling to the Navajo Res. in Arizona to help a local Navajo church with construction and maintenance

Where: Navajo Reservation, Hardrock, Arizona

When: Memorial Day Weekend, **May 23-26, Fri-Mon**

Info. Mtg: **Sun, Apr 13, 1-2pm, location TBD**

### JUNE

#### **LUNCH AT THE UNION RESCUE MISSION:**

We have an opportunity to go downtown to the Union Rescue Mission and help in preparing/serving lunch to the homeless.

Where: Union Rescue Mission

When: **Sat, Jun 14, 11am-3pm**

Pastor's Corner, cont.

however, that nothing can replace the dynamic that occurs when two or more people meet face-to-face. Jesus hints at this when He says, "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them" (Matt 18:20).

Today, people come home from school or work and immediately sit down at the computer to communicate with others. While "chatting" with a friend, they may also be surfing the net and/or having a number of completely separate conversations with others. We can have multiple "conversations" with people everyday but still feel like we haven't really been with anyone. The fact is that we haven't. In fact, our obsession with technology leaves less and less time for the type of face-to-face interaction with people that genuinely satisfies the human need to "know and be known". A "smiley face" is a poor substitute for watching a smile break out on a real person's face. An electronic "pat on the back" is not the same as a loving touch or comforting hug. No digital reproduction can replace the experience of sharing a laugh or a tear together. It is certainly easier and less threatening to sit behind a computer screen, but it is the "risk" involved in engaging in genuine relationships that makes experiencing life an adventure.

While I am not recommending that we unplug all our computers and unsubscribe from our cell phone plans, I would suggest that we actively find ways to increase our face-to-face time with people. Here are some ideas:

- 1) Commit to spending time with people for a meal or coffee at least once every week or two
- 2) When possible and practical, substitute a phone call or face-to-face mtg. for that email or text msg.
- 3) Intentionally set up some "face time" with a long-time friend that you haven't had a "real" conversation with for a while.

These are just some ideas. Let the Lord lead you in taking steps to build your participation in real community. You will be blessed!

**Additional information available** on the YAM webpage: [yams.fcbc.org](http://yams.fcbc.org) and on the YAM bulletin board upstairs in the Hall of Truth outside Rm 223 or  
Email Pastor Chris Tomokiyo at [cbmsn1@earthlink.net](mailto:cbmsn1@earthlink.net)

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL

What: Bible classes and training courses  
Where: Hall of Truth, upstairs  
When: Sunday mornings, 9-10:30am  
Contact: Donald, [donyuan@netzero.net](mailto:donyuan@netzero.net)

ESPM (ENGLISH PRAYER & PRAISE MTG)

What: Prayer and worship mtg  
Where: Youth Worship Center  
When: 7:45-9:00pm, Wednesday nights  
Contact: Thelma

SMALL GROUPS/BIBLE STUDIES

What: Sunday Small group Bible study  
Where: FCBC, upstairs Hall of Truth  
When: Sunday Morning, 9-10:30am  
Contact: donald at [donyuan@netzero.net](mailto:donyuan@netzero.net)

What: Weeknight Small group Bible study and fellowship  
Where: 7715 Melrose Ave, Rosemead  
When: Every other Thurs night, 7-10pm  
Next mtgs: Mar 13, Mar 27, Apr 10  
Contact: Simeon Wong: [simeonwong@yahoo.com](mailto:simeonwong@yahoo.com)

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afternoons.

Acts 1:8 says, "*but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.*"

As we consider missions, our hope is that each of us will take up the challenge of sharing Jesus with others. Yes, perhaps you may join one of our traditional short-term mission teams that will go to "the remotest part of the earth." But we also hope that each of us will be challenged to see that there are mission opportunities that within our Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria. Our hope is that in the busyness of life, many young adults will seek to make a difference. Whether it is feeding the homeless at Union Rescue Mission, reaching out to at-risk single moms and their children, sharing the gospel with a co-worker or neighbor, or helping to be salt and light to Navajo men as you help to build church facilities in Arizona, we hope that each of you will be a part of the challenge to "Impact Our World."