

Central CONNECTION

MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Central Baptist Church of Orange County
 2323 N. Grand Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705
 (949) 202-5575 * CentralBaptistOC.church
 *NEW EMAIL*CentralConnection@mail.com

"That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." 1 Corinthians 2:5

CELEBRATING SEVENTEEN YEARS!

By Pastor Steve Owens



**"Thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year."
 Exodus 13:10**

Israel had just marched out of Egypt after 430 years of bondage. Blood on the doorposts, the death of Egypt's firstborn, Pharaoh finally said "Go."

But God knew something about human nature. People forget.

So before they even crossed the Red Sea, He built in a reminder. Exodus 13:3, "Remember this day, in which ye came out from the house of bondage." Every year, same time, same feast: Unleavened Bread. Why? Exodus 13:9, "it shall be for a sign... that the LORD's law may be in thy mouth."

WE NEVER WANT TO FORGET WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE.

God put anniversaries on Israel's calendar not for nostalgia, but for obedience. "From year to year" they stopped, looked back, and looked up.

That's why we celebrate our church anniversary. We never want to forget what the Lord has done. Just as the Lord commanded Israel to keep this ordinance from "year to year," we also give thanks for the ministry of Central Baptist Church of Orange County.

Seventeen years ago, this church walked out of nothing into something. No building, just a burden. No crowd, just a calling. Like Israel, we didn't get here by our strength. The Lord was on our side. Psalm 124:1-2.

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MAY BIBLE MEMORY



"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

Titus 2:13



COMMENTS/QUESTIONS?

Please send newsletter comments, questions or suggestions to:

CentralConnection@mail.com
 (Note: @mail *not* @gmail)

CELEBRATING SEVENTEEN YEARS!

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On the last Sunday of May, we will gather once again to commemorate our anniversary for the same three reasons Israel kept the feast. Three R's straight from the pattern of Scripture.

I. Remember — “Lest we forget”

Deuteronomy 8:2, “thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee.”

Anniversary is altar time. In Genesis 12:8, Abram built an altar and called on the name of the Lord. Every altar marked a place God met him.

We remember the early years. No certain home. Moving from location to location. A small group of people praying for the Lord's help. The Lord always came through.

1 Chronicles 16:12, “Remember his marvelous works that he hath done.” Forgetting breeds pride. Remembering breeds gratitude.

Like the Levites in 1 Chronicles 23:30, we “stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD.” Anniversary is our corporate morning watch. We stand and say, “God did this.”

II. Rejoice — “The LORD hath done great things.”

Psalms 126:3, “The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.”

Israel's feast wasn't a funeral. Deuteronomy 16:14 “thou shalt rejoice in thy feast.” Seven days of unleavened bread ended with a holy convocation — a celebration.

We rejoice because 17 years means 17 years of souls saved, missionaries supported, and lives changed. We rejoice in the weddings, physical births, spiritual births, baptisms, and people trained for the work of the Lord. Luke 15:10, “there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.” Heaven's been rejoicing over this church for 17 years.

The Levites didn't just keep charge — they led praise. 1 Chronicles 23:30, “to thank and praise the LORD.” Anniversary Sunday is not a business meeting. It's a praise meeting.

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Weekly Schedule

Sunday

9:00 am

Sunday School (All Ages)

10:00 am

Sunday Morning Preaching

5:00 pm

Sunday Evening Preaching

Thursday

7:00 pm

Scripture Scouts (4-12)

7:00 pm

Prayer and Bible Study
(Adults & Teens)

Topics of Study

“Old Testament Survey”
Auditorium Sunday School

**“Relevant Preaching
for Today”**
Sunday Morning

“The Book of Acts”
Sunday Evening

“Biblical Discipleship”
Thursday Evening

Central Baptist Church of OC offers four important preaching and teaching services each week. Each service is different and each service is vital to your spiritual growth.

If circumstances beyond your control hinder your attendance, by all means do your best to watch online and stay informed. Services are recorded and streamed live on ...



PREACHERS OF THE GOSPEL!

CBCOC is blessed to have faithful men who are willing to share what God puts on their hearts during our Sunday evening “Popcorn Preaching” event.

Pictured Right: Martin Hu, Dylan Woodward, Jim Page, Joel Valencia, Pastor Owens, Ryan Heerman, and Sigi Bustos.



CELEBRATING SEVENTEEN YEARS!

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Psalms 100:4, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise." If God kept us 17 years, He's worthy of 17 years of praise.

III. Renew — "Keep the charge"

Exodus 13:10, "Thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance." Keep means continue. Don't stop.

Israel's feast pointed forward. 1 Corinthians 5:7, "Christ our passover is sacrificed for us." Every year they renewed their covenant to obey. Joshua 24:15, "choose you this day whom ye will serve... as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Anniversary isn't just looking back, it's reenlisting. 1 Chronicles 23:32, "keep the charge of the tabernacle... and the charge of the sons of Aaron." The Levites had a daily charge. So do we.

We renew our commitment to prayer and the Word. Acts 6:4. We renew our commitment to order. 1 Corinthians 14:40. We renew our commitment to reach our city for the Lord. Acts 1:8.

Isaiah 40:31, "they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength." Seventeen years is not a finish line. It's a mile marker. Philippians 3:13-14, "forgetting those things which are behind... I press toward the mark." From Year to Year.

God told Israel, "in his season from year to year." That means this won't be our last anniversary, Lord willing, unless He comes back!

So on that Sunday, May 31, we will **remember** what God did. We will **rejoice** in who He is. We will **renew** what He called us to do.

1 Samuel 7:12, "Hitherto hath the LORD helped us." And He will again.



Like the Levites of old, we "keep the charge." 1 Chronicles 23:32. For 17 years, and from year to year — until He comes.

Psalms 90:17, "establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it."

We look forward to seeing you again on Sunday, May 31, at 10:00 AM!



Left: Bro. Jim Page preaches during "Popcorn Preaching."



CBCOC MISSIONARIES

1. Dempsey (Missions Evangelist)
2. Duke (Mexico)
3. Goddard (Trinidad/Tobago)
4. Hearn (Nepal)
5. Hoffman (Belgium)
6. Hoffmeister (Ecuador)
7. Jackson (Japan)
8. Johnson (Wings BPS)
9. Lawson (Brazil)
10. Marco (Philippines)
11. Meach (Cambodia)
12. Mislán (Philippines)
13. Morgan (Japan)
14. Navarro (Philippines)
15. Qallo (Fiji)
16. Robinette (India)
17. Robinson (Zambia)
18. Rue (Ukraine)
19. Russell (Papua, New Guinea)
20. Tremblay (Thailand/China)
21. Veldhuis (Cocopah Indians)
22. Wells (Papua New Guinea)

How Can you Support our Missionaries?

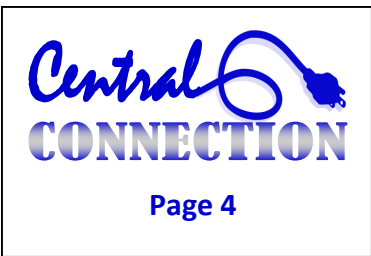
- 1. ATTEND:** Women can be a part of Phebe's Fellowship on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00. This group is vital in the prayer and support of our missionaries.
- 2. GIVE:** Your sacrificial giving makes a difference!
- 3. PRAY:** Remember to pray for our missionaries daily!



Use this convenient QR code for online giving.



HELLO AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



As I share the wonderful experience of celebrating the Seventeenth Year of Ministry of Central Baptist Church of Orange County (CBCOC), what comes in my thoughts as a very new member of this blessed ministry is that it has been a place for me to continue my walk with the Lord, and to grow spiritually.

Submitted by:
Shelby Beverly

My decision to join CBCOC has led me to know that truly the Lord has been faithful to lead me to a good church after making a move from my hometown in Chicago, IL. I am continuing to pray and learn the following from the word of God.

My Prayer for Renewed Strength

Lord Jesus, please renew my mind, that I may think the holy and good thoughts of a redeemed child. Please secure the helmet of salvation upon me so I am never without protection. I now put on the breastplate of righteousness. Holy Spirit, come and fill me now. Give me strength for the battle and endurance to seek your will. Graciously release your gifts of faith, hope and love, discernment and praise. Help me to pick up the sword of the Spirit to cut down and clear away all that is not of you. Keep me rooted in your living Word that is sharper than a two-edged sword against my enemy. In Jesus, the Messiah's name, I pray. Amen.

Psalm 18:39 "For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: thou has subdued under me those that rose up against me."

My Prayer for Uncertainty

Heavenly Father, when I look at all the threats around me, all the uncertainties and things I can't control, I feel afraid and overwhelmed. Thank you for sending your Son Jesus to teach me how to walk by faith even when the waves are choppy and the winds are high. Help me to keep my gaze focused on Him. It's in His name that I pray: amen.

Matthew 14:29-31 "And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

My Prayer for a Renewed Mind

Dear Heavenly Father, sometimes my thoughts spin out of control, to anxiety or comparison or anger, instead of turning to you. I want you to rule in my heart and my mind. I want my thoughts to be led by your truth. As I pray today, renew my mind and break down any strongholds that try to control me. In the name of Jesus I pray: amen.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 "(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; "



SINGING!



BAPTIZING!



TEACHING!