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# LAKE SIDE CHURCH *of Chicago*

† transforming lives † transforming our world for Christ

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## The **LAMPLIGHTER**



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July 11, 2011

### UNCOMMON GENEROSITY

Court Crandall had watched his son, Chase, play basketball on club teams for several years with students from nearby Compton High School of Los Angeles, whose 2530 students divides into 74 percent Hispanic and 25 percent African American. Father and son discussed the divide between the opportunities that students from his own school in Manhattan Beach enjoyed in contrast to those of students at Compton.

The dropout rate in 2009-2010 at Compton reached 27 percent. Of the 317 graduates in 2010, only two had completed course work required for entrance into the University of California or California State.

Crandall, an advertising executive, created a competition for Compton graduating seniors. Applicants had to have at least a 3.0 GPA, which narrowed the field from 500 to 80 students. Eight were chosen at random to participate in a free throw contest. The winner would receive \$40,000 in scholarship money to the school of his or her choice. All other contestants would receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Participants included Victory Holley, a band majorette and one of twelve children being raised by their single mother. Omar Guzman would be the first high school graduate in his family. Efen Arellano's parents are immigrants, working in factories to give their children some hope for a future. Allan Guei, son of Ivory Coast immigrants, was the captain of the basketball team, but he still qualified academically. All eight had been accepted into colleges, but had no idea how they would afford them.

Crandall "thought the free throw is a good metaphor in a world where there's a bunch of lines that are kind of dividing us. The focus became, how do we show the world another side of Compton, that's more positive, beyond the stereotypical guns and crime stuff?" He filmed the project as a documentary, "Free Throw," which he will submit to the Sundance Film Festival in September.

The contest took place in March in Compton's packed field house. Guei won the \$40,000 prize. Crandall shocked the other seven students by announcing that his company had raised enough money to provide scholarships for one year of tuition for all seven.

In June, "Free Throw" had a major unscripted plot twist. Guei returned the \$40,000 to Crandall with instructions to divide it between the other seven participants. Guei had received a full scholarship from Cal State Northridge. He said, "I've already been blessed so much and I know we're living with a bad economy, so I know this money can really help my classmates. It was the right decision."

Perhaps Guei has insulated himself from marketing propaganda to nurture the virtue of contentment, a satisfaction with one's status and condition in life. Guei's vision has not become near-sighted from the perpetual exposure to the blinding glitter of an affluent America. He has not developed cravings that make him a selfish opportunist.

This high school graduate still sees others around him with their needs. He has kindled compassion and generosity rather than indifference and greed. His decision to distribute the money to his classmates would stun most Americans.

Here is humanity at its best. This benevolence should inspire all of us to examine our own habits. Most of us enjoy an abundance far beyond what we truly need to be content. One has to wonder why.

We enter the world without anything and we exit the world without anything. That should give us a clue about the nature of possessions. Jesus told his disciples that we are merely stewards of God's household (Luke 12:42). That means that nothing we possess really belongs to us, but we are only managing it for someone else.

A manager wants to maximize the productivity of his personnel and resources in a way that benefits the company (or in this case, the household). If he manages those resources to benefit himself only, he will not be working for that company very long.

Jesus said, "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required and to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more." (Luke 12:48) Allan Guei has demonstrated marvelous managerial skills. How much more should those of us who know the Master of the household give generously to the needs that exceed ours?

*Pastor Stan*

LAKESIDE THIS WEEK, Jul 14-20, 2011				SMALL GROUPS/MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES	
Thur	14			Please speak with contact person/elder if interested.	
Fri	15	7:30 pm	YG/Refuge (at church)	<b>Small Group</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>
Sat	16			Sun Eve (church)	W Hiyama, 847.677.6548
Sun	17	9:05 am 9:30 am 10:50 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm 6:30 pm	Morning Prayer Sun school for all ages/PreK-5 <sup>th</sup> —lower level Worship Service Deacon Board Meeting FVAC YG/HS at church	Wed Day Group (church)	R Hall, 847.677.4126
Mon	18		Lamplighter production	TNT Bible Study (Tue/Skokie)	J/P Leopoldo, 847.329.0992
Tue	19	10:00 am 7:30 pm	Lamplighter mailing TNT (J/P Leopoldo's home)	Arl Hts Group (Fri/Arl Hts)	A DePaz, 847.342.0118
Wed	20	10:00 am	Day of Prayer and Fasting	Hosanna (Fri/Skokie)	B Kanda, 847.329.0763
				<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>POSITIONS AVAILABLE</b>
				Worship	Ushers and greeters
				Fellowship	Women's Fellowship Group leader(s), person to send hospital/funeral flowers
				Building Maintenance	Deacon and helpers
				Christian Ed	Sunday teaching leaders for all ages
				Missions	Committee members
				Finance	Assistants (requires DB review and approval)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

07/24-30 Camp and Conference

### JULY CHILDCARE

07/17 S Okazaki, L Mukoyama, A Guillaume, Z Hiyama

07/24 J Fujiyoshi, Am Martin, Q Lawson-Hall, E Kanda

07/31 P Nakamura, C Suzuki, T Hiyama, E Kawasaki, An Martin

**PRAYER REQUESTS are included in the Lamplighter by request. We rely on your input to keep the prayer requests meaningful. If you wish to add someone to the prayer list or update an existing request, please drop a note in the office or email the church at [lakesidechurchofchicago@yahoo.com](mailto:lakesidechurchofchicago@yahoo.com).**

Please lift up: Jane Arao & family, Yaho Fujii, Bobby Giffen (*Deb's uncle, physical/spiritual health, broken neck*), Nancy Baer (*surgery scheduled for 7/14*), Jim Giffen (*Deb's dad, back pain, diabetes management, seizures*), Tak Hiyama (*receiving in-home PT, progressing well*), Dan Johnson (*docs attempting to isolate and surgically remove seizure center in brain*), Stan Johnson's grandson (*MS*), the Kanda family (*passing of Bill's father*), Sue Lemons (*Deb's aunt, 50% chance may lose both legs*), Carol Hiyama Martorelli (*receiving post-knee surgery PT at Glenview Rehab Center*), Carol Murai (*ongoing treatments*), Kazuko Murakami, Amy Nakai (*God's protection as she has been falling more*), Pat Nakashima (*general health*), Kaiko Nomoto (*home from the Rehabilitation Center of Evanston Hospital last Fri*), Taro Nomoto (*condition is much better he walks around for exercise*), Aiden Osakada (*ongoing healthcare*), Carole Riding (*renewed eyesight, other health issues*), Kenny Sakamoto (*health management*), Rebecca Schwind (*fragile health*), Fumiyo Uchida, Phyllis Unosawa (*her health*), Pat Williams (*comfort and healing*), and continue to lift in prayer those who are grieving and those near in heart though far away. May God be glorified and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Thank You to the HARTS for joining us on Sun, Jul 10. We appreciate the update on their ministry in Bolivia during the worship hour and also for the puppets visiting us during the Sunday school hour. What a blessing it is to be given a glimpse of the world that the Hart family is bringing the Kingdom of God into. Please remember them in your prayers as they visit other ministry partners in the US as well as dropping Daniel off at Cedarville University in Ohio.

## REFUGE

Fri, Jul 15, 7:30pm: Regular meeting at church



Sun, Jul 17: YG grad party (details to follow, location to be determined (volunteers?))

Sun, Jul 24: Missions team will share during Worship Service

Sun, Jul 24, 5:00pm: Check in at camp

## SPEAKING OF CAMP

Registration forms are now past due. Perhaps if you ask really nicely the directors will still accept registration and medical forms for your children. Talk with Erin Yokoyama or Dan Fong for Chi-KO and Jason or Sandi Yokoyama for Teen Camp.

### Ladies' Summer Study

has two meetings to go—Jul 18 and Aug 1—to complete the Summer Study (no meeting on Jul 25 due to camp).

And then for something completely different . . . a one-night only Salad Supper and Book Club at Debbie Wiedeman's house. The book is *Unshaken: Ruth, One of five unlikely women who changed eternity, A Novella*, by Francine Rivers. **Aug 8, 6:30pm.** For details, please talk with Debbie.

## Help a Kid Have Fun



DATE	ADULT (1 or 2)	ADULT (1 or 2)	YOUTH (1)	YOUTH (1)	YOUTH (1)
7/17					
7/18					
7/19					
7/20					
7/21					
7/22					
7/23					
7/24					
7/25					
7/26					
7/27					
7/28					
7/29					
7/30					

Reservations will be needed for any Sunday that we do not have enough volunteers.  
 1. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 2. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 3. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 4. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 5. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 6. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 7. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 8. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 9. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.  
 10. Sign up for the Children's Program Volunteer Sign-Up Summer Recreation.

We NEED volunteers!!! It's summertime and the CP kids look forward to going to the park during the Worship hour. We are looking for two adults over 21 (preferably one of those adults has raised or is raising children) and two youth helpers (jr high or HS) for every Sunday through Sept. In the absence of volunteers, the children will join their parents for Worship service.

**Jul 17:** need one more adult. Thank you to Deb W, Dillon L, Querina B for volunteering and Deb W for snacks.

**Jul 24:** need one more adult and one more youth. Thank you to Christine N and Zach H for volunteering and Christine N for snacks.

**Jul 31:** need two adults. Thank you to Quinn L-H and Amber M for volunteering and Lisa M for snacks.

**Aug 07-Sep 18:** need 2 adults and one or more youth helpers for every week.

July 8, 2011

Dear Lakeside Family,

*I want to thank you all so very much for your kindness and hospitality and service at my recent recital! There were so many who reached out to help make the event a success from beginning to end. I dare not name names for fear that I'll leave someone out, but I know who you are and you know who you are! I am so thankful for each of you!!*

*It was so wonderful to see you not only come and enjoy and support our efforts, but to pitch in and help with set-up, reception, providing yummy snacks, clean-up, and welcoming my other friends and our new community guests. Thank you for showing the love of our Lord through your hospitality! Folks are always surprised by how welcoming our church family is to outsiders. Thank you for that and for being the hands and feet of Christ.*

*I love you all and am so thankful to be a part of this body and the Body of Christ!*

*In His love, Pam*

In the past few months the elders and pastors have . . .

- Approved the proposal for Ladies Bible study on Ruth
- Planned the Leaders Retreat and done an evaluation of the discussion at that meeting
- Planned for the Natural Church Development survey and done analysis of the survey results
- Begun planning for the next Alpha Course and discussed a follow-up program for those who complete the course (Toyamas, Kawasakis, Wiedemans, Wayne Hiyama, Sabriah Wiedeman and Quinn Hall attended a training course)
- Begun planning for a presentation at the Annual Meeting
- Approved a preaching schedule through September
- Discussed participation in Back To Church Sunday