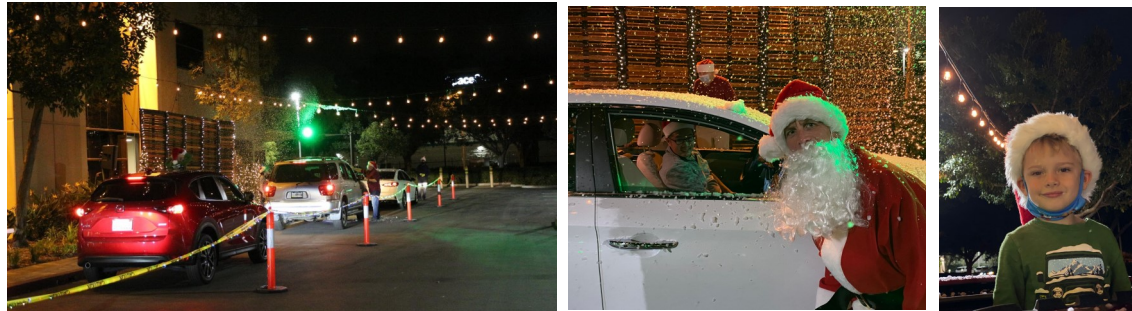




OCC Drive Thru Christmas Party

On December 23, Orange Coast Church had a Drive Thru Christmas party that enforced safety precautions for COVID-19. The party included hot chocolate, cookies, Christmas trees, Christmas lights, Christmas music, snow, a toy drive for needy kids and a visit from Santa Claus.



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Good News... Good New Year...

By Pastor Ken Studer

Our celebration of New Year's Day on January 1 is a human-made creation, not precisely fixed by any natural or astronomical event. So where does the New Year's Day concept come from?

It stems from an ancient Roman custom, the feast of the Roman god Janus, who was the god of beginnings, gates, transitions, time, duality, doorways, passages, frames, and endings. This is also where the name for the month of January comes from, since Janus was depicted as having two faces. One face looked back into the past, and the other peered forward to the future. There was no equivalent in Greek Mythology.

Today, although many do celebrate New Year's Day on January 1, some cultures and religions do not. Jews, for example, do not. According to the Hebrew calendar we are now in year 5,781, not 2021. The Jewish new year is called *Rosh Hashanah* and is celebrated in the fall.

The Chinese new year will start on February 12, 2021 and it will be the year of the ox. The ox is in the 2nd position in the Chinese zodiac calendar. An ox year occurs every 12 years in Chinese cul-

ture. Positive characteristics such as being hardworking and honest are attributed to it.

The Bible has a lot to say about new things. Isaiah quotes God saying: *Behold, I am doing a new thing... I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.* Isaiah 43:19 ESV

Ezekiel quotes God saying: *I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.* Ezekiel 36:26 ESV

The Apostle Paul said: *If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

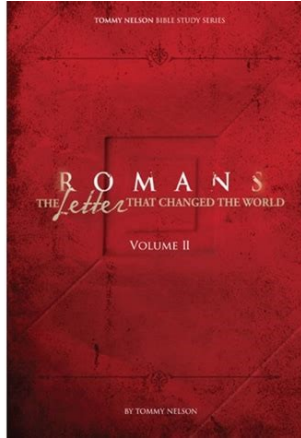
2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV

At the end of the Book of Revelation it says that God will make 7 new things: New Heavens; New Earth; New Jerusalem; New Nations; New River of Life; New Tree of Life; and a New Throne.

As we begin 2021, the Good News is that we have been given new hearts and new spirits and we are a new creation.

Viewpoints

DISCUSSION SERIES @ 11:15 AM



This month in Viewpoints we will finish our study of the second half of the Book of Romans. This is the book that changed the world by illustrating what Christian living is all about. We will learn how we should respond when God calls us, and how we should serve Christ.

We'll also discuss how we can determine what the will of God is. Romans discusses the need for us to spread the Gospel to the entire world and why that is a good thing. The book of Romans speaks to us about how to live our daily lives in harmony with God and those around us. Join us each week online for the OCC broadcast at 10:15 AM for Viewpoints!

JANUARY SCHEDULE

- January 2: The Christian Conscience, Part 1
- January 9: The Christian Conscience, Part 2
- January 16: Need for Missions
- January 23: The Love of Christ
- January 30: Our Duty in Christ

January Worship Schedule

This month Pastor Ken begins a sermon series on the basic truths of the Christian faith. Uriel Herinirina and Allan Martin will be our speakers when Pastor Ken is out of town on the 16th and 23rd.

- 1-02 Christianity 101—The Bible**
- 1-09 Christianity 101—Who Is God?**
- 1-16 Guest Speaker: Uriel Herinirina**
- 1-23 Guest Speaker: Allan Martin**
- 1-30 Christianity 101—Does God Exist?**

January Birthdays

Tamura Oberkramer	January 01	Eric Barco	January 11
Mary Lou Calleros	January 02	Jayson Porsana	January 11
Michelle Ferri	January 02	Kadi Tobin	January 11
Jo Ann Haigh	January 03	Cyrus Carlson	January 12
Harvey Lee	January 03	Jacqueline Testman	January 12
Akinyemi Ola	January 03	Dorian Haulcy	January 13
Kara Tobin	January 03	Ron Rapp	January 13
Beverly Daugherty	January 05	Tommy Lee	January 14
Jesse Grubbs	January 05	Gary Schwandt	January 14
Martha Riojas	January 05	Belinda Hsieh	January 15
Liz Bendezu	January 06	Johan Marlissa	January 15
Shane Dixon	January 06	Sean Moyer	January 15
Ronald Holness	January 06	Semilore Ola	January 15
Hank Kim	January 06	Immacolata Byfield	January 16
Ernest Ngo	January 06	Setsu Tamura	January 16
Alice Chen	January 07	Ethan Tsui	January 18
Julietta Galera	January 07	Tom Chen	January 19
David Moyer	January 07	Judith Ladenberger	January 19
James Ping Ong	January 07	Gene Sottosanto	January 19
Lara Blom	January 08	Arturo Barb Mingo	January 20
Megan Fraizer	January 08	Nathaniel Degner	January 20
Beatrice Lucaciu	January 08	Monica McCowan	January 20
David Robert Purvis	January 08	Elaine Tran	January 20
Tyler Riddle	January 08	Gabriel Lagos	January 26
Jesly Escalante	January 09	Chad Rodriguez	January 26
Javier Giles	January 09	Susan Schwandt	January 27
David Giles	January 09	Luisa Freytag	January 28
Cameron Baker	January 10	Andres E. Ramirez	January 29
Sarah Dompas	January 10	Gerald Ghelfi	January 30
Harvey Harper	January 10	Gary Baker	January 31
Bahman Nakhaei	January 10	Cheryl Bowers	January 31
Gus Tooma	January 10	Nani Koromete	January 31