

“Re-Generate the Church”

Ephesians 4:13-16
Pastor John Thill

What is God’s definition of an ideal person?

Eph. 4:13-16; Col. 1:28; Eph. 5:27

“MATURE”

What is the world’s definition of “MATURE”?

Jesus’ life changing phrase: “You have heard it said, but I say...” Matt. 5:21-48

How do we become God’s kind of person?

1. It comes as Christ takes up residence in us. (Eph. 4:24)
2. It comes as we live, keep in step with, and are led by the Holy Spirit. (Gal. 5:16-26)
3. It comes as we let the Word of God dwell in us richly. (Col. 3:16)
4. It comes as we live as part of the Body of Christ. (Eph. 4:16; Eph. 2:19; 2 Cor. 1:24; Phil. 1:25-26)

DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE WHO DEEPENS YOUR DESIRE FOR GOD?

The importance of the generations. Joshua 24:14-15; Judges 2:8-13; Psalm 145:4-7.

How do we treat “mature adults”?

1. Do not disqualify them.
2. Engage them. (Deut. 32:7)
3. Value and honor them.
4. Correct them. (1 Tim. 5:1-2)
5. Capture, arrest, seize, adopt them. (Psalm 78:1-7)

How do we treat our “youth”?

1. We remind them who they are in Christ.
2. We give them God’s value.
3. We prove God’s way is best.
4. We prove marriage is better than a “one night stand.”
5. We listen to them aggressively.
6. We prove God never lies, is never late, His kingdom is never at risk.
7. We “covenant” with them.
8. We bring them to “the adult table.”

Welcome

 | to Rolling Hills
Covenant Church

DISCOVER • LOVE • SERVE

June 23/24, 2012

“Re-Generate the Church”

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Thank you for turning off your pagers and cell phones during services.

Following each worship service, members of the prayer team will be available in front of the platform to pray with you and minister to your spiritual needs.

Receivers for the hearing impaired are available from our ushers.

SERVICE TIMES:

Worship Center: Saturday, 5:00 p.m., Contemporary Worship Music
Sunday, 8:00 & 9:30 a.m., Blended Music
Sunday, Canvas, 11:15 a.m., Contemporary Worship Music

The 290s (Ed. Bldg.): Sunday, Canvas, 9:30 a.m., Contemporary Worship Music
Sunday, 11:15 a.m., The Gathering with Byron MacDonald, Urban Gospel Music

Community Ctr.: Sunday, 10:00 a.m., Life on The Hill, Contemporary Music

Welcome to Rolling Hills Covenant Church—a caring community of people who believe the Bible is the Word of God and choose to live by its truth.

Our mission is to know Jesus intimately and to share His love and truth passionately. We **discover** God by studying His word, both personally and with others. We endeavor to **love** others, with Christ as our example. And we commit our time, talents, and treasure to **serve** God, to reflect His glory, and to share the salvation of Christ throughout the world.



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310.519.9406 • www.RollingHillsCovenant.com

We are so happy you have joined us for worship today!



Starting Point is a 4-week orientation to RHCC and our purpose for ministry. Gain insight into God, the Bible, and our beliefs. The seminar meets in the library on Sundays from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every other month. Our next series meets July 1 through 22. For more information, visit the Welcome Center.

Are you struggling? The pastoral staff at RHCC is available to help you with your marriage, finances, parenting, emotional issues, or if you are in need of prayer. We can also provide recommendations for Christian counseling services in the South Bay. Contact Nate Aanderud at 310.521.2565 or naanderud@rhcc.net.

Here are some highlights of what's coming up at RHCC. For more information about all of our ministries, pick up the latest issue of *Connections* magazine.

All Church Picnic

Join us at Highridge Park this Sunday, June 24, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. for games, food and fun! We'll provide hot dogs and hamburgers, you bring side dishes, chips or desserts to share, along with drinks for your family. Also be sure to bring a blanket or chairs.

Pictorial Directories Are Here!

Our long-awaited pictorial directories have arrived! If you had your photo taken as part of the directory, you may pick up your free copy in the ticket window following services. Beginning in July, additional copies will be available for \$10.

Patriotic Celebration

Join us Sunday, July 1 at 6 p.m. in the Worship Center as our choir and orchestra present "Freedom: A Salute to American Liberty," with a special appearance by the Camp Pendleton Color Guard. Childcare available by reservation at 310.519.9406.

Looking for the Small Group Homework?

Throughout the summer, you can find it online at RollingHillsCovenant.com/small-groups.

Special Congregational Business Meeting

The Elder Council has called for a special Congregational Business Meeting on Monday, July 2 at 6 p.m. in the North Campus Chapel to discuss the possible sale of the empty lot on PV Drive North and a vote to call a new High School pastor.

Worship Center Flowers

Flowers have been donated by Arlene Chao in loving memory of her father, Dr. Wen Ying Chao. "A generous and kind Dad, and loving servant of the Lord Jesus."

Prayer Ministry

Homegoing: Please pray for Len Knott and family on the homegoing of his wife, Linda.
Prayer Chain: Peggy Snell at 310.539.0391 or Annette Johnson at 310.530.3292.

Giving Report (as of 6/17)

Giving goal (6/1/12-5/31/13):	\$6,700,000
Budget Needs YTD:	\$337,143
Received YTD:	\$335,187
Over/Under YTD:	(\$1,956)
Needed last week:	\$112,381
Received last week:	\$93,278

Children's Campaign

Funds Received to Date:	\$675,095
<i>Funds Still Needed:</i>	<i>\$1,324,905</i>
Two-Year Pledges:	\$785,132
<i>Two-Year Pledges Still Needed:</i>	<i>\$1,214,868</i>

In our "intergenerational" services this weekend we will be considering the important role we play in each other's lives eternally. We will be reminded that God's definition of an ideal person is one who is "attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ," (Eph. 4:13) who is "filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." (Eph. 3:19)

What makes this weekend unique is the attention we are giving to the place that each generation plays in fulfilling this definition in the other generations. Left to ourselves, we gather together at church, say hello, worship together in our different gatherings and go home. You will hear how important it is for each generation to invest and be connected with each other, with introductory ideas on how this can continue to grow.

One of these ideas is called "rites of passage." Identifying and negotiating the mile markers of life together: child to adult, adult to parent, adult at mid-life, adult to mature adult, mature adult to elder, leaving a legacy. God intends that as the family of God we are coaching and encouraging one another through these "passages."

This weekend we will focus on two examples, mature adult to elder and youth to adult. A wonderful example of what we are trying to enable happened last year when two of our young adults were engaged to be married. The world's way is a bachelor/bachelorette party. In contrast, a group of godly men were called together by the father of the groom to help him prepare for marriage. The older men shared counsel, encouragement and

blessing – becoming partners, coaches and encouragers in the milestone transition of the younger man.

Recently the Voyagers and Jr. High classes spent a part of Sunday morning together getting to know one another and sharing life together. We would invite other generations to do the same. Your home is the greatest place for this kind of life to take place. Consider inviting someone from another generation to have dessert or a meal with you in your home.

Paul shared with the Philippians in 1:21-26, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ...I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ will overflow on account of me." It is my prayer that, because of this weekend, other's joy in Christ will overflow because of you and we will catch a new vision of how this might happen at RHCC.

You will find a card in the bulletin to express interest in going further. It is my hope that with these responses God will form teams, classes, relationships and resources to more fully engage us in one another's lives, not programmatically but relationally. We will take your responses and design next steps and keep you informed through your contact information.

John Thill
Middle/Mature Adults Pastor