

The Lord Jesus has enabled us to serve in the following capacity:

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LEAD THE BLIND TO JESUS

Charlie Gomez

An eye surgeon once went to China as a missionary and began his practice in one of the hospitals. One of his first surgeries was on a man who had lost his sight as a result of cataracts which developed in his eyes throughout the years. The surgery was a success and the man regained his sight.

A few weeks later, the surgeon was greatly surprised when he saw 48 blind men standing in front of the hospital door. These 48 men had walked about 250 miles from a remote part of China all the way to the hospital to be operated on and so receive their sight. Since they were blind, in order to stay together they traveled the entire distance holding on to a long rope. Guess who was the one in front of the line guiding the 48 blind men? The man who had recovered his sight a few weeks earlier as a result of his surgery.

A disciple of Jesus is like that man who recovered his sight after the surgery and guided the blind to the surgeon so that they too could receive their sight. Jesus said in *John 8:12 (NIV)* "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

A true Christian understands that he was blind, but after knowing Jesus he regained his sight and therefore has a burning desire to bring all the blind to Jesus. If in fact, we believe that we have the light of Jesus in us, then let us enlighten this blind world we live in so that more people could have their eyes opened.

We have all been blinded by something. Some of us have been blinded by material gain, others by the pleasures of this world, yet others have been blinded by blind preachers that in turn blind others with false teachings and rules taught by men. Jesus speaks about this particular type of blindness in *Matthew 15:14 (NIV)* "Leave them; they are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit".

At first, this might seem like an impossible mission to accomplish. Only after we decide to walk by faith and not by sight we realize that God has been at work ahead of us in the lives of those whom we will share the gospel. Some of them are ready!!! All we need to do is tell them the good news. Jesus alluded to this fact in *Matthew 9:37-38 (NIV)* when He said "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." If we continue to share the good news without giving up we will realize the harvest is plentiful. They are out there!!! What is lacking is not the amount of people with open hearts. Jesus said that what are lacking are the workers. Make sure He can count on you to be sent into the harvest field.

These past few Saturdays have been a blessing. Our bodies come home tired, but our spirit rejoices because we overcame the flesh and went out to share the wonderful news of Jesus Christ with people. I'm sure that is why my family and I felt a sense of satisfaction as we drove home. Now the challenge is to make sure that this does not become an event we take part of every summer, but a lifestyle. One of the best ways to show appreciation for our salvation is to tell others about Jesus. Every time we share the gospel with someone we are saying with our hearts "THANK YOU LORD FOR SAVING ME".

Yearn for His Image!
Ladipo Davies

Philippians 3 seems to mirror the previous chapter in many ways. We first learn in chapter 2 how our wonderful Lord left His glorious state with the Father, chose for *our* sake to become ‘nothing’ giving up all his rights, and humbling himself in complete obedience to the Father’s will - to the point of a most barbaric and humiliating death on a cross. Our Lord though would soon rise from the dead and offer that *same* resurrection power to His true followers (**Rom 8:11**). That power would actually be evident throughout His life on earth and enable Him to bring great glory to the Holy Father, displaying His wonderful works. It would also be a life that would be “acquainted with grief” (**Isaiah 53:3 ESV**). Complete denial of self (**John 6:38**); ceaseless scrutiny and hostility from those opposed to God’s will (**John 7:7**); a constant longing for Heaven, more specifically His beloved Holy Father’s presence being denied (**John 14:28, John 17:5**); and evidently all the suffering that came with His death on the cross. Yet what is most remarkable is that through it all, even through the scandal of his death, He kept emitting *love* to all, even to his enemies. How beautiful He is!

Yet Paul wanted the Philippians (and now us) to know that this was not just a story to sit and marvel at or glory in, yet more so it was the *exact* life anticipated by God the Father for all who would become children of God. Paul sets out using *himself* as a model. He too left ‘glory’, his standing in Israel, and chose likewise to become ‘nothing’. His *only* pursuit now was identical in form to that of the Lord Jesus, as he expresses passionately “*that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead*” (**Phil 3:10-11 ESV**). Herein lies the nucleus of true Christianity, a non-optional example to follow (**Phil 3:17**). If our Lord was not consumed with His own glory (though in His case it was true and rightful); how much more should we renounce *our* interest in *any* form of earthly glory? Our *sole* pursuit then should identically mirror that the Apostle scribes: (1) a deeper yearning for intimacy with our Lord which will lead to (2) a wonderful experience of His great power manifest in your life, which in turn will enable you to (3) share or have fellowship in His aforementioned sufferings, which is *essential* in aiding and shaping you to fulfill your life’s goal – to be just like Him, particularly in His death, where we see most clearly our Lord’s complete humility, obedience and love. It is time brothers and sisters, to totally tear up *all* worldly, self-centered goals and aspirations, count them as rubbish, and focus on the model Christ set for us His church. I look forward to witnessing the results of this pursuit – seeing His image evermore in us as we together await the results of the 4th and final goal – His glorious coming and our resurrection! Amen.

“The Lord added to their number...” Acts 2:47 Recent Baptisms

DATE	NAME	TOWN
7/3/10.....	Timaeus Whitted	Saint Albans
7/2/10.....	Josephine Grpple	Jamaica, NY
4/4/10.....	Dora Lopez.....	Central Islip
3/10/10.....	Racquel Lamarre	Springfield Gardens
2/28/10.....	Cliff Hendrickson, Jr	Selden
2/19/10.....	Amber Tomengo	Medford

“They first gave themselves to the Lord...” 2 Corinthians 8:5

Weekly Budget: \$ 9,000		
MONTH	AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	AVERAGE WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION
April, 2010	319	\$9,779.75
May, 2010	272	\$8,596.20
June, 2010	295	\$9,198.50

Mentorship is Functional

Rebecca G. Young

My dear sisters, I am writing to you hoping to inspire you to take hold of and understand your important role in our mentorship ministry here at LICOC. Mentorship is such a blessing! I believe it is this ministry that achieves in us awesome discipleship and truly is a tool to help us fulfill God’s commands found in *Matt 28:20 (ESV)* “teaching [the disciples] to observe all that I have commanded you”, as well as, *1Cor 11:1 (NIV)*, “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.” Jesus came to leave us an example to follow. *1Peter 2:21* says that our calling in life is to follow in the footsteps of Christ. Paul reminded the church over and over to be imitators, followers of Christ’s example displayed in Him and the other laborers. We are called to imitate faith. Mentorship has been established to help fulfill this calling.

We are a body made up of many parts and we all have been given gifts to fulfill a function in the body of Christ (*Eph 4*). Another goal for mentorship is to assist you in fulfilling God’s plan for you. Mentorship should function in a way that helps us fulfill the purpose God has for us as individuals. His purpose for the body with many parts is to “equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,” (*Eph 4: 12-13 ESV*). When a mentor is prayerfully chosen for you, the goal is to select someone who will help you to grow, to be built up, unified and equipped. Someone you can follow as they follow Christ.

I believe God has blessed us with mentors for this purpose of unity and church growth. I don’t believe He puts people in these positions to rule over anyone or because they have special power or authority, but for good purpose and function only through the authority and power that comes from Him. Mentorship is set up in a way that would help all the sisters fulfill their role and be encouraged by their group by having a purpose together and by being of one mind. Mentorship is mutual and functional.

Some of us don’t see this beautiful purpose for mentorship. I pray you may change your mind. You may only see your mentor as being over you and not how your group could and should function for the encouragement of all. If you are a mentor with a mindset that you are better than your mentees, I pray you will change your mind. We are all one in Christ, equals and of one mind. No one is above another in the sense of being greater or having more power, and we can all learn from everyone. I learn just as much from the ladies I mentor as they do from me. I pray that they may love me, correct me, teach me and sharpen me the way I do them. We’re in this together. Some of us have this stigma that our mentors are greater than us. Sometimes sisters even “teacher worship” or “mentor worship” instead of God worship and put their mentors on a pedestal. “Who’s your mentor?” we ask. No! Titles are never to be worn by Christians, as stated in *Matt 23:8-10*, where Jesus warns us that we are not to be called “‘Rabbi’, ‘father’ or ‘teacher’, for we only have one Master and you are all brothers”. I love that verse! We are all brothers and sisters there is no Master except Jesus Christ. No one is to receive such honor and worship other than our Lord and Savior. We are a family, brothers and sisters with our big Brother Jesus and our Father in Heaven.

In keeping with the scriptures, we are encouraged to have a proper respect for those who are older than us and work among us. In *1Thess 5:12-13 (NIV)* it says, “Now we ask you brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.” There’s that unity again. Respect and honor them not because of their position, but because of their hard work, because of their function and role in your life. Our mentors have a great responsibility for they have to account for our souls. Mentors, you have a great responsibility, “for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness” (*James 3:1 ESV*). *Titus 2:3-5* gives the older women the responsibility to teach the younger. It says that they are to teach what is good and so train...training is an ongoing life long process. We are blessed to have the tool of mentorship in our congregation. What a blessing it is to have an older sister to meet with regularly and imitate her faith.

Let us all recognize the beauty of the body of Christ and the plan God has for us here at LICOC. Let us work together to build up the Lord’s church and allow ourselves to be built up by this wonderful ministry of mentorship. Don’t look at the woman, see God in the woman. God works through people, He always has. Will you allow Him to work in you and through you? Let’s continue to submit to one another “out of reverence for Christ” (*Eph 5:21 ESV*) until we reach the “measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.” (*Eph 4:13 ESV*) God bless!

“For the building up of the Body...” Ephesians 4:12

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS QUARTER

- 📖 **Off Bible Class Dates:** July 14th; Aug 25th; Sept 15th
- 📖 **Devotional Service Dates:** July 9th, 23rd; Aug 6th, 20th; Sept 10th, 24th
- 📖 **City Women’s Fellowship:** July 31st 10am-12pm at Carmen Booker’s home
- 📖 **Women’s Prayer:** Aug 7th 10am-12pm at Leonora’s house
- 📖 **VBS 2010:** Aug 23rd - 27th 7pm-9pm at the NYIT SAC building. Register online: <http://vbs.licoc.org>
- 📖 **Family Field Day:** Sept 11th 11am-4pm at Eisenhower Park. Bring lunch with you.
- 📖 **Video Library:** If you have any items take out from the video library, please make sure they are signed out or return them if you’re done with them. Please see Rob Dixon in the back foyer Sunday after services for more information.
- 📖 Keep up with all church events by joining LIChurch Space! Go to www.licoc.org and click the LIChurch Space link!
- 📖 If you would like to order a cassette tape of a past sermon or seminar, please see Rob Dixon.
- 📖 All announcements should be submitted to David Luhrs.
- 📖 Address/telephone changes can be e-mailed to directory@licoc.org.
- 📖 **Parking reminder** - Public Safety has issued a statement requesting that all church members and visitors **refrain** from parking on any **grass areas** beyond the parking lots surrounding the chapel. Thank you for your cooperation!

MISSIONARY SUPPORT

- ✝ Apologetics Press.....International
- ✝ We Care Ministries.....West Monroe, Louisiana
- ✝ Ron Clayton.....India
- ✝ Doug & Lucy McDougle.....Ukraine, Russia
- ✝ Long Island Harvest Campaign.....Central Islip, NY
- ✝ City Harvest Campaign.....Queens, NY

“Your faith toward God has gone forth...” 1 Thessalonians 1:8

COMMUNITY BIBLE CLASS MINISTRIES

Long Island Ministry.....(Wednesday 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.).....Robert Carr.....(631) 348-7322
New York Institute of Technology Chapel, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, N.Y.

City Ministry.....(Wednesday 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.).....Pedro Gelabert(347) 732-2101
House Churches in Rosedale, St Albans and Fresh Meadows in Queens, New York City. Please call for directions.

Spanish Ministry.....(Tuesday 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.).....Charlie Gómez.....(631) 772-2889
New York Institute of Technology Chapel, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, N.Y.

UPCOMING KINGDOM EVENTS

For anyone wanting to use his/her vacation in a fruitful way, take a vacation to help bring souls to Jesus. :) Join a “We Care Ministry” soul winning team and help bring people to the Lord. Learn the techniques of the “We Care Ministry” team leaders: Larry West, Willie Tolison, and Bill Oden. Room and board will be provided. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Bob Carr.

We Care Campaign Itinerary

2011	Location	For More Info
Feb 10 - 20	Sierra Vista, AZ	http://www.wecaretoday.net/Village%20Meadows.html
Mar 31 - Apr 10	Upland, CA	http://www.wecaretoday.net/Upland.html