

Monthly News and Updates

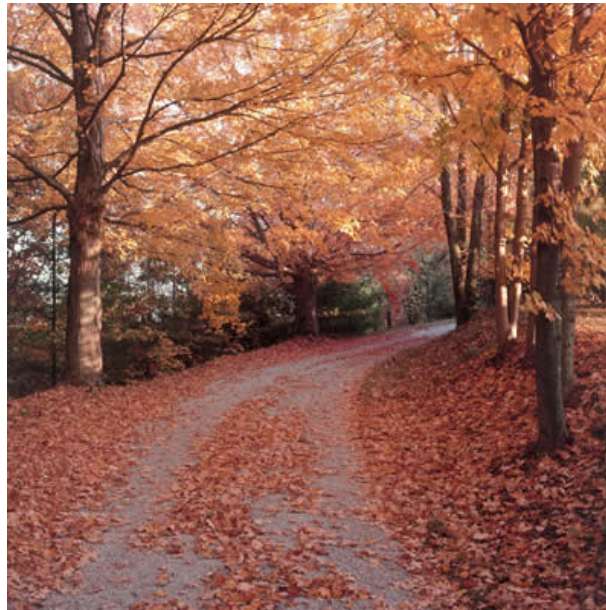
# Branches of the Cross Anglican Church & Retreat Center Sponsor of The Christian Healing Center

Sunday Service Begins at 10:30 a.m.  
followed by our Church Family Gathering

We are located at 801 Valley Crest Drive, Vista, CA 92084  
Mailing Address: 791 Valley Crest Dr., Vista, CA 92084

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October visions of fall

**Welcome to your newsletter!** Now you can keep track of everything that is going on at BotC & the CHC for the month and beyond.

Here are the latest opportunities to strengthen your faith and connect with the community.

# Attention!

Please make note we now have  
**NEW PHONE NUMBERS**

BRANCHES CHURCH is now: 760-290-8222

CHRISTIAN HEALING CENTER is now: 760-290-8212

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**WE are now on Instagram!**  
Look for us at "Branches Church Vista"

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## October Calendar of Events

For this month's scheduled Family or Church Retreats visit our full online calendar at [branchesvista.org](http://branchesvista.org)

**Oct. 2** Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

**Oct. 5** Bible Study on Galatians  
English 10:30 a.m.  
Spanish/English 7:00 p.m.

**Oct. 7-9** Deanery Campout

**Oct. 8** Vestry Meeting 9:00 a.m.

**Oct. 9** Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

**Oct. 10-12** 3-Day Intensive Prayer

**Oct. 12** Bible Study on Galatians  
Spanish/English 7:00 p.m.  
**No morning lesson**

**Oct. 16** Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

**Oct. 19** Bible Study on Galatians  
English 10:30 a.m.  
Spanish/English 7:00 p.m.

**Oct. 21-22** Diocesan Synod

**Oct. 23** Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

**Oct. 26** Bible Study on Galatians  
English 10:30 a.m.  
Spanish/English 7:00 p.m.

**Oct. 30** Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

### *What's Coming In November*

**Nov. 5** Vestry Retreat

**Nov. 14-16** 3-Day Intensive Prayer

**Nov. 20** Neighborhood Friendsgiving  
Celebration

**Nov. 24** THANKSGIVING



## It is with sad hearts that we bid farewell to our sister in Christ, Joyce Burrow.

Joyce passed away on Thursday, September 8, 2022 the same day as Queen Elizabeth II.

Joyce was born on June 27, 1930 in Bristol, England and moved to San Francisco in 1992 to be with her son. Our August newsletter just had an article featuring her. You can view that article by going to [Branches website](#), click on the Newsletters tab and scroll down to the August newsletter.

We can only imagine, but can't you see Joyce right now having tea with the Queen and talking about their country's future? God save the King!

# 2022 Diocesan Synod You are invited!



This is a good time to gather and meet one another, the only time all year that we get to celebrate as a whole diocese.

Everyone is invited on October 21-22.

LOCATION: Presbyterian Church of The Master  
26051 Marguerite Parkway  
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

Synod, as defined historically, is a gathering of the leaders of a Diocese, both ordained and lay, who prayerfully consider in God's presence the important matters that are before the



Bishop Andrew Williams, Bishop of New England

The plenary speaker at DWA Synod 2022 will be Bishop Andrew Williams. He asks how can we effectively be the salt and light of the world? How do we best work for God's Kingdom? He will be teaching on these topics at the Synod!

Bishop Andrew began his professional life as a corporate litigator in the United Kingdom, but despite a successful career, he began to sense that something significant was missing in his life. He and his wife, Elena found themselves drawn into something far deeper, and ultimately came to a living faith in God through the love, support and friendship of their Anglican Parish. He trained for ordination at Trinity College, Bristol where he graduated with an honors degree in

Church. In a Synod, one may expect to be inspired, encouraged, taught and trained for more effective ministry through the Church. To learn more go to [2022 Synod](#) to register and find hotel info.

theology. He was ordained in the Diocese of Exeter in 2000 and spent six years as Associate Vicar of St. Andrew's, Chorleywood. Beginning in October 2009, Bp. Andrew served as the Senior Pastor of Trinity Church in Greenwich, CT. In 2019 he was elected as bishop for the Diocese of New England.

## TALKS BEING OFFERED AT THE SYNOD

You will be offered the chance to attend talks (which usually include plenty of discussion) on topics including "Serving God as a Lay Minister," "Lay Driven Women's Ministry," "Lay Missioner Training," "Snakes, Spandex, and Scorpions: A How-To Approach for Meeting the Neighbors," "Beyond the Walls and Breaking the Chains," "A Regional Vision for Lay Leaders," "Lay People and the Healing Ministry," "Lay Ministry: Seniors to Seniors," and "Equipping Laity to Reach University Students."

These are a lot of ways to reach people. Inevitably, some of these talks will overlap in the schedule, but they are going to do their best to make sure you can attend the talks you want, which means offering each more than once if necessary. If you've registered, keep your eyes open for an upcoming Google Survey so you are able to attend the talks you want.

## BIBLE STUDY THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

St. Paul wrote many valuable lessons for us to learn in his letters.

We began the Book of

Galatians the first part of September and enjoy it immensely. You will receive study notes and hear wonderful concepts on how St. Paul's writings can affect our daily lives and thinking patterns. It's never too late to jump in and join us online or at the chapel.

Fr. Gabe will teach in English and Spanish.

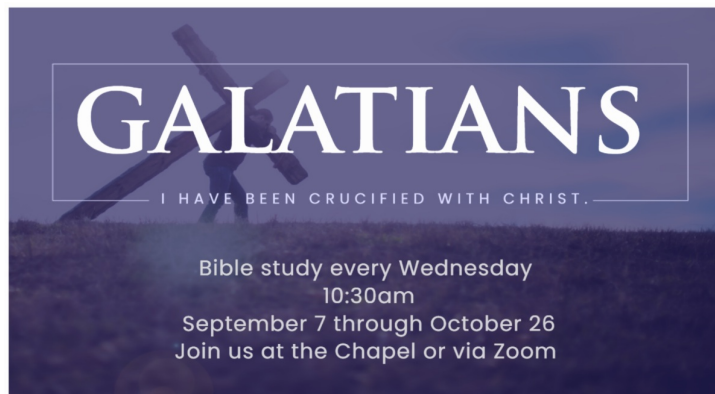
[ENGLISH Study](#) at 10:30 a.m.

[SPANISH & ENGLISH Study](#) at 7:00 pm.

You can choose to join us in the Chapel, or use this link to join us online thru the Branches of the Cross website.

Click here to access the Zoom link on our Home Page:

[branchesvista.org](http://branchesvista.org) and scroll down to the time you want to join.



**Who's That?** Every month we will be highlighting a member of the BotC congregation. They are randomly picked and you could be asked next! What a great way for members to get to know our church family!

This month we are featuring **LALU MOOKEN** by Lalu and, Iva Heide



I was born in Kottayam, Kerala State, India, Feb. 8th 1945 to Joseph and Grace. I am the oldest one of three. My marriage was arranged by a family friend. We have dowry system. Whatever the bridegroom family asks for, the bride family has to give the money. That custom is still going on. I was married to Joe Mookan in 1964 and in 1965 my oldest daughter was born. In 1966 my husband got a scholarship to come to United States for higher studies (Pharmacy). In 1967 I came to United States with my oldest daughter Miriam. We were in Michigan until my husband finished his Master's degree. My youngest daughter Michelle was born in 1970 in Michigan. We moved to California when he got a job in LA with one of the pharmaceutical companies for two years and then he got a job in San Diego (La Jolla) area as a chemist.

In California I worked as a Quality Control Inspector in an electronic company and Visual Inspector in another company. Later, I worked a part-time job at Home Goods in Encinitas, CA until I retired. My oldest daughter received a degree in Business and Home Science and the youngest one Michelle received a Doctorate in Pharmacy. Miriam married Tony Katzdorn. He was in the Navy and now is working at a computer firm. They have one son Dane. Michelle married Jay Gupta. He is a mechanical engineer and the Director of his company. They have two sons Dylan and Ryan. I was a member of Good Samaritan Episcopal Church in University City, the Anglican Church of the Resurrection and, now Branches of the Cross. My husband passed away in 2016.

A typical day for Lalu who is a prayer warrior...

Some times I get up at 6:30 a.m. and praise God. After breakfast sometimes I read the Bible and sing some songs from the Anglican Church of Resurrection praise. Then it is time for cooking for that day. At 9 a.m. Monday through Friday I Zoom morning prayer from Christ the King. Then I pray for my kid's family and myself. That takes one hour. By then I have my lunch time. After lunch, cleaning my apartment here and there. In the evening I pray for other people who asked for prayers. That is a big list. That takes another hour. In between I watch news.

Lalu has clergy in her family in India. In her dad's family, there was a Bishop and her husband's brother Mar Aprem, is a Metropolitan Bishop. Under him there are two Bishops that he ordained.

Lalu used to travel to India every two years but then the pandemic came along and she hasn't been back.

Lalu also helps Iva with setting up the food for fellowship on Sundays and clean

up afterwards since Bobbi left.

It is a pleasure to know Lalu and, what a model of dedication she is to her calling as an intercessory prayer ministry.

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## This may interest you...

# 1, 2, 3 PRAY

Do you know someone who needs Christ in their life? Watch for more information on this mindful way to pray coming in the November newsletter and your Branches email.

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## *Campus News*

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### **NEIGHBORHOOD FRIENDSGIVING CELEBRATION!**

### **Mark Your Calendar!**

Sunday, November 20  
After the Sunday service  
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Branches  
church is inviting the  
neighborhood for a  
friendship celebration – just  
like Friendsgiving during  
the Thanksgiving holiday  
time.  
Pie, coffee and soft drinks  
will be served. Come and  
get to know the folks  
around us.

Do you enjoy hosting? Iva Heide  
needs helpers after the Sunday  
church services...

## **Fellowship**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Iva will be away in October. She needs

someone(s) to fill in for fellowship on the following Sunday: Oct. 30

Iva can use your help on ANY Sunday. Your choice as to what to serve. Maybe 15 to 18 people on Sundays will be there. You never know. This is an easy group, they like almost anything you bring. Juice or water for drinking, and coffee.

Or maybe just donuts or coffee cakes for those days? Let Iva know if you can help and which date.

[rheide1@cox.net](mailto:rheide1@cox.net). Or text 442-515-2984



## WE ALSO NEED HELP WITH RETREAT MEALS

Whether it's a 3-Day retreat, a weekend church retreat, or a special guest coming to use our facilities, we could use your help with preparing meals and cleanup. Team work makes the work load light. Click on this link "["LL HELP"](#)" and let Carolyn know you could be available when an occasion arises.

## KITCHEN REMODEL NEWS

The kitchen remodel is complete.  
And what a beautiful kitchen it is!  
You will have to come and see it for yourself.



We have so much to be thankful for!

The kitchen remodel at Disciple House is almost complete.

It is a major remodel but finally the house has an adequate draining and sewage system. There is ample refrigerator and freezer space, AND there is a pantry! The cabinets, countertop and floor are beautiful!

The cost put us way over budget by at least \$20,000 due to the rising cost of materials, unexpected repairs and extra construction.

So we are appealing to you. **We truly need your help!** Please allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart, if you are able, join us in this effort by contributing to cover the overage in costs.

Apart from the 3-Day and 1-Day Healing Intensives, there are several ministries and churches that are looking at using the Branches of the Cross campus facilities. We have a wonderful opportunity to continue serving the Christian community. And I am asking that you be a part of it. By walking together with us to complete the building and restoration projects, you will be serving the large Church in ways that none of us can fathom.

Let's walk together and see the greatness of God manifested in our midst.

Rev. G. Martin Garcia  
Rector, Branches of the Cross Church

# Christian Healing Center News

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## GOD DID IT!

### Testimonies of God at Work

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#### God's Perfect Timing

Back in November/December of 2021 Sharon Okada and I were both attending different churches. We both enjoy working as prayer ministers at the CHC and were unaware that each of us was getting a nudge (mine was more like push) from God to start attending Branches church which we were familiar with. I felt God wanted me to start up an OSL Healing Community of prayer ministers at Branches and build a bigger base of prayer ministers at CHC, which at the present time is taking place. Once Pastor Kathleen Adams heard of our move to Branches, it led to Sharon and me becoming OSL class leaders for online training for new and re-established prayer ministers in OSL (International Order of St. Luke the Physician), but that's another story.

Anyway, I told Sharon I felt like God was telling me to start coming to Branches and asked if she would like to come with me. She said she was feeling the same thing from God and was going to ask me if I wanted to start attending. Isn't that a coincidence?! Once we started attending, we found out that the administrator of the church was moving away and this small congregation was in need of someone(s) to help out. We arrived at the perfect time. Sharon was needed to help during the church service as an acolyte along with other duties and I was needed with my background of administration, and we both are busy with more CHC activities where help is needed.

Needless to say, God knows where and when all of us are supposed to be, we just need to be alert and ready to follow His lead. Timing is everything, let the Holy Spirit be your guide!

Carolyn Burns, CHC Prayer Minister and Branches Admin.

If you have a testimony you would like to share send an email to this link *Newsletter Editor*.

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#### **Do you have the gift of hospitality and enjoy preparing meals?**

CHC is looking for a volunteer(s) to prepare breakfasts and lunches during our 3-Day Intensive Prayer Retreats that are held once a month. With our new kitchen it will be a real





pleasure to cook and prepare food for the retreatants. To quote from Rev. Josh Acton (OSL National Director) in his new book *The Gifted Life* concerning hospitality, "Just as healing is a gift demonstrating the power in the Kingdom of God for each of us to be made whole in mind, body, and spirit, so hospitality is a gift that reflects the Kingdom of God, where

there is joy, love, acceptance, listening and caring for others. Those who have the gift of hospitality can share in Kingdom living and make others feel special, and we need this desperately in our world today." If you feel that God is calling you to this ministry and want to know more, contact **Carolyn Burns**.



## Upcoming Events at the Christian Healing Center (CHC)

**OCTOBER 10-12**

**3-Day Intensive Prayer Retreat**

**We have ONE opening for the 3-Day retreat for  
October.**

**Your application must be received  
no later than Tuesday, Oct. 4**

To learn more about the prayer retreats go to our website  
[branchesvista.org](http://branchesvista.org)

There is no charge, although we do appreciate donations.

**WHY NOT START THE YEAR  
OFF WITH A NEW AND  
IMPROVED YOU!!**

In our 3-Day Intensive Prayer Retreats, God does some amazing healings, both inner and physical. Isn't it time for you to clean up the stuff you've been carrying around for years? Throughout life, especially in childhood and the teenage years, we all experience hurtful things that people say or do, and many people experience abuse, bullying, and even traumatic events. And these experiences often adversely affect our self-confidence, our relationships, and the effectiveness of our professional lives and our service to people in



need. Allow God to heal those emotional wounds and the painful memories that attend them, to set you free from the conscious and subconscious things that have been holding you back from doing the things you wish you could do, and to bring new joy and fulfillment in your relationships, your career, and your service to others.

Fill out an application for November or December and let God change your life and set you free.

### Sign Up For Any 1 or 3-Day.

If you are interested in a 1-Day or a 3-Day Intensive prayer time, get your paperwork in early to be assured a spot on the month you want to attend. It is on a first come, first served basis. Just click on this link [1-Day & 3-Day form](#) they both use the same form, and scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the button that says "1-Day & 3-Day Intensive Application." Print, fill out and mail as directed. Questions? email [CHC.branchesvista@gmail.com](mailto:CHC.branchesvista@gmail.com)

The special **1-Day** is designed for those unable to attend a 3-Day Intensive Prayer Retreat during the week.

Get more information on any 1-Day or 3-Day Prayer Retreat, or to come for Personal Prayer Ministry, contact: [CHC.branchesvista@gmail.com](mailto:CHC.branchesvista@gmail.com) or go to our website at [branchesvista.org](http://branchesvista.org)

The email can also be used to submit 1 or 3-Day Intensive Prayer applications.



## The Christian Healing Center is in Need of Prayer Ministers.

If you feel you are called to pray for others with a heart of love and compassion this could be your ministry. Don't feel you do not have enough experience. We will team you up with a trained, experienced prayer minister as you pray for people during a 3-Day retreat, 1-Day retreat, or personal prayer sessions. We can also lead you to resources to help you grow and learn to minister to those who are in need of our healing prayers. Want to know more? Contact Bob Graves at [CHC.branchesvista.org](http://CHC.branchesvista.org).

## *Are you a member of OSL and looking for a Healing Community to join?*

We would love to have you join our online Kingdom Life Healing Community affiliated with the Christian Healing Center. Fr. Gabe Garcia from Branches of the Cross Anglican Church which supports the CHC, is our chaplain. He walks us through wonderful teachings each month.

Our online Zoom group meets every 4th Sunday at 6:30 p.m. for one hour.

To join just *send an email* and we'll add you to our roster. Blessings!  
Carolyn Burns & Sharon Okada, Co-Convener



# OSL

A MINISTRY OF  
CHRISTIAN HEALING

[OSLTODAY.ORG](http://OSLTODAY.ORG)

The International Order of St. Luke (OSL) has **online training for new discerning prayer ministers and seasoned members**. The new training program will benefit ALL OSL members whether you have been a prayer minister for many years, or considering becoming a prayer minister. These re-designed, Bible based, in-depth classes run for 13 weeks and covers the 26 healing miracles of Jesus and how they apply to us today. The classes are FREE and online or in person. You can choose the month you want to begin and the teacher(s) you would like to connect with. **DON'T MISS OUT!** If you are considering this blessed, fulfilling work, now is your chance to start.

If you are already an OSL prayer minister and haven't gone through this new training, please do. Those who have taken the course are happy they did. We want everyone to be "on the same page" as we proceed into greater works for our Lord.

Go online to [osltoday.org](http://osltoday.org) and check out the program under the "Find Healing" tab.

## PRAYER CORNER

Are you, or someone you know, in need of prayer? BotC and CHC has a dedicated team of intercessory prayer ministers ready to take your prayer request to our Father God on your behalf. Contact:

[prayers.branchesvista@gmail.com](mailto:prayers.branchesvista@gmail.com) to send in your request.

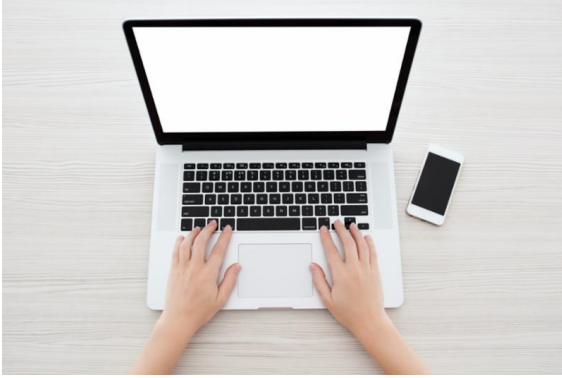
If you would like personal prayer contact:

[CHC.branchesvista@gmail.com](mailto:CHC.branchesvista@gmail.com) for further information.



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**CONTACT US:**



**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

*prayers.branchesvista@gmail.com*

**3-DAY & 1-DAY RETREAT INFO &  
APPLICATIONS, and PERSONAL  
PRAYER INFORMATION:**

*CHC.branchesvista@gmail.com*

**FR. GABE GARCIA:**

*rev.gmartingarcia@gmail.com*

**CHURCH OFFICE:**

*office.branchesvista@gmail.com*

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

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**Church Phone: 760-290-8222**  
**Christian Healing Center Phone: 760-290-8212**

To receive our newsletter send your contact information to:

*Office.BranchesVista@gmail.com*

Website *branchesvista.org*