



## Renew, Respring

New Year's Resolutions. Remember those? What were some of yours? Losing weight, eating healthier, spending less money. These are simply some of the ones I can conjure up in my head. How many of those have been kept, how many are still a part of your life?

Probably not a single one...if you're anything like me.

Why are resolutions so hard to keep, and new habits so hard to form? Unless you actively and continuously make yourself change, it almost seems impossible.

Summer's almost coming to an end, and for many, it's a time for change. Time to turn over a new leaf and restart things in life. If you're a student, a new school year is beginning, and surely you'll learn new things and make new friends. If you're working, maybe it's a time to refocus on your career, get out of that slump, and make the rest of the year better. If you're a parent, this is the time for your children begin a new school year, or maybe starting school for the first time.

With all these new beginnings happening around us, it's also the perfect time to recommit and renew your relationship with God. Admit it. It's something you think about, but can't ever really bring yourself to do.

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Want to submit an article? We'd love to hear from you! E-mail us with your articles/ideas at [connections@binnerriem.org](mailto:connections@binnerriem.org). Submissions must be made by the third Sunday of each month.

## Submissions

Want to serve in a different way? Join the *Connections* team! E-mail us at [connections@binnerriem.org](mailto:connections@binnerriem.org) for more information.

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Feeling a bit iffy about it? Not surprising. It's funny how much easier it is to tell ourselves we'll work harder on grades, or on a work project to get ahead, but it's not easy to commit to furthering our relationships with God. But then again, this is a much bigger, greater commitment.

But don't worry. If you decide to take that step to renew and refresh your faith, good for you. You won't be alone. As a church community, we have options for you. Come to the retreat, enjoy close fellowship with your fellow brothers and sisters, meet with God together through worship and through His Word. Or maybe take it a step further and sign up for a LifeGroup today. We have new singles and couples groups that will be launching in September.

In other words "respring" yourself. Take this season to renew those commitments you made during the beginning of this year, especially in your relationship with Jesus Christ. And seize this opportunity to take those next steps in your faith walk, and actively seek out ways to renew and rejuvenate yourself. We may be heading into the Fall season but it's definitely time to *respring*.

- Mari Park

## LifeGroup Bowling Fellowship



Sunday, August 23 was a fun-filled afternoon for many of us as we bowled together at AMF Richardson for the LifeGroup Bowling Event. From those of us who filled the scoreboard full of zeros, to those who think scoring an average of 160 is a bad day, all of us were able to laugh, encourage, and just have fun together in Christ. So next time we host an event, do come out and join the fun!

- Grace Choi

## Pastor's Corner

I think I'm looking forward to fall starting because I want summer to end... OK, I admit it, I just want the heat to end. But as my kids start a new school year, with their new shoes and new backpacks (why do we buy them new ones each year again?), there's something in me that wants a fresh start as well. That's what I love about God. That He has given us seasons in our lives so we can start fresh again. That His mercies are new every morning. That we get a clean slate every day, every month, every season, and every year.



Whether you've been in our ministry for a long time, or you're new here, one thing that you'll notice about our ministry is that we don't do many things. We don't try to fill up our church schedule with lots of things. But, we do have a few things that we do, and we want to do them well. And in those environments, we want everyone to join in.

So, take this time to start fresh in your relationship with God. Take an active step and get involved. Use this opportunity to get into a LifeGroup, come to the retreat, or serve in a ministry...because God will be honored by it and you'll grow because of it.

Following Jesus,  
PK

# Binnerri EM Fall Retreat



We are so excited for our Fall Retreat this year. We believe that this will be an incredible opportunity where our congregation can get to know one another and see ourselves as the body of Christ. The theme of our retreat is *ONE*, and we will be using this time to see that *"There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to one hope when you were called – one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all in and in all"* (Ephesians 4:4-5). As our congregation continues to grow, we want to find our foundation and oneness in the *ONE* who has called us together in Christ Jesus.

We understand that it can be difficult at times to build relationships with people on Sunday mornings because there's just not enough time to really connect with others. The retreat will be a great environment to meet new friends, catch up with old ones, learn from God's Word together, relax and rest and see the church as God sees it. We are especially excited to have an opportunity for our married couples and singles to spend quality time with one another in corporate worship, fellowship and prayer. We truly believe that this retreat will be an incredible time, where we can draw closer to God as one people, united under His amazing grace. This retreat will definitely be "one for the books," so register today. You don't want to miss it! ❖

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## Speaker Bio: Rev. Steve Choi

With the conviction that the local church is the hope of the world, Rev. Steve Choi planted Crossway Community Church in Brea, CA. He was commissioned by Sarang Church (where he served as the English Ministry Pastor 2003- 2007) to plant Crossway in September of 2007. Pastor Steve was ordained in 1999 in the Presbyterian Church and is a graduate of Talbot School of Theology (M. Div) and UC Riverside. In 2008, Pastor Steve was awarded a honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Ebenezer Theological Seminary (Kerala, India). His two-fold passion is his family and the local church. He and his wife, Sharon, have two daughters, Carissa and Ashley. Pastor Steve is a gifted speaker and we know that God will use Him to speak His Word to us throughout the retreat. ❖



# upcoming events

September

September 11-13, Friday-Sunday  
Binnerri EM fall Retreat

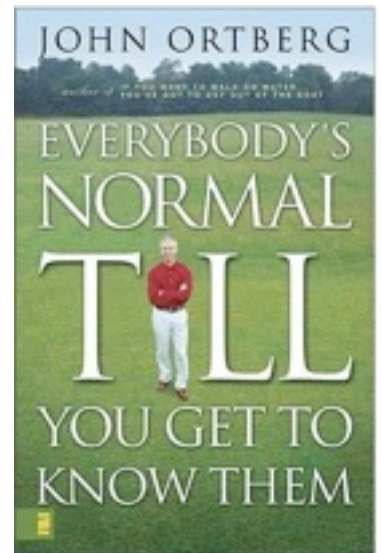
September 19, Saturday @ 6:30am  
Women's Prayer Meeting

September 30, Wednesday @ 7:00pm  
Pathway (Singles) Gathering

## Christian Media Reviews

**Book Review:** *Everybody's Normal Till You Get to Know Them* by John Ortberg

The need for community is woven into the very fabric of our being, because God has created us with an innate desire for relationships. In *Everybody's Normal Till You Get to Know Them*, teacher and best-selling author John Ortberg zooms in on the things that make community tick. Ortberg utilizes his humor, wisdom, and tremendous gift of story telling to show the amazing impact a God-centered community has on individual lives. Concerning this book, one critic wrote, "With the insight of a counselor and the heart of a pastor, Ortberg has written one of the best contemporary considerations of community." This is a great resource for small groups, or even those considering joining a small group community.



**Album Review:** *"Hello Love"* by Chris Tomlin



Chris Tomlin is one of the most gifted song writers and worship leaders of this generation. His songs are sung in churches and congregations all over the world ("How Great is Our God," "Enough," "Holy is the Lord," "Your Grace is Enough," etc.). His latest album, "Hello Love" (2008), has a great mix of inspirational worship and upbeat praise songs. You'll find some of the popular songs we've been singing on Sunday mornings such as "I Will Rise," "God of This City," and "Jesus Messiah." Whether you are a fan of Chris Tomlin or not, you will definitely enjoy worshipping alongside this album. Be sure to add this to your music library.

Want to learn more about Binnerri English Ministry?

Check us out on the Web at [www.binnerriem.org](http://www.binnerriem.org). For general contact, please e-mail [info@binnerriem.org](mailto:info@binnerriem.org).  
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