



INTERCESSIONS

Give thanks for:

- Faithful Christians who have nourished and renewed the long tradition of Christianity in these countries.
- St Peter and St Paul, whose work for the gospel eventually resulted in the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity.
- The Catacombs and all the other monuments where the history of early Christianity inspires a renewed faith.
- St James, whose shrine at Santiago de Compostela is a place where contemporary pilgrims unite in prayer for a reconciled Europe.
- Those who reinterpret the story of St James so that it is not used against Muslims.
- Pilgrims who try to find a deeper faith and a healing of the spirit.
- Those who welcome and care for migrants and refugees.
- Guitars, stomping feet, castanets, the whirl of flamenco dancers, the charm of Neapolitan songs, the thrill of an outdoor opera in an ancient arena.
- Renewers of the church, including Peter Valdes, Benedict and Scholastica, Francis and Claire, Catherine of Siena.
- Fiestas full of family and friends.
- Michelangelo, de Vinci, Titian, Velazquez and all who used their art to proclaim the gospel.

Pray for:

- The Vatican, and all who hold positions of power in the Roman Catholic Church.
- An end to terrorism and violence; solutions to the conflicts with the Basque region of Spain.
- Better use of land, sea and air resources.
- Wisdom and guidance in dealing with immigration issues.
- Young people, that they may find opportunity in their homelands and renewed hope in Christ.
- The immigrants and the victims of human trafficking.
- The unemployed.
- An end to corruption and crime, so that justice may exist for all people.
- Continued struggles against intolerance and hatred.
- A renewal of the spirit of the church, amid an increasingly secular and materialistic society.



THE MESSENGER

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

*February 14, 2010
Transfiguration Sunday*

“To Worship or to Follow”

Pastor Emily Lin

Text: Luke 9: 28 - 36

Usher/Greeter: Frances and Charlie

Prayer: Burt

Scripture: Peggy

Music: Aeri

Acolyte: Jason

SoundTechs: Abby

Hospitality: Pot Luck



Worship with Us Next Week: February 21, 2010 Lent I

Preacher: Pastor Emily

Usher/Greeter: Adrienne and Rich

Lenten Worship Leaders: Aeri, Hoang-Anh, Jane, and Jenny



Happy Chinese New Year!!

***Join us for lunch following
Service!***

S.O.U.P. Sundays begin Next Week!

We will be having a simple service at CCUMC on Ash Wednesday (the 17th) beginning at 7:30pm

For the next 6 Sundays, our worship order will be pared down to bring focus to our prayer time. We will be singing simple and repetitive songs that invite a spirit of contemplation. There will be shorter messages and an expanded time for prayer.



Our hospitality time will center around tea and coffee only.

We will share in a soup lunch together each Sunday while listening to readings about prayer.

Small groups will be formed to get to know one another and to pray together following the partaking of soup.



Upcoming News and Notes ~

- St. Paul UMC in Fremont is sponsoring a training for **Healing Prayer Ministry**. There will be 3 sessions of 2 hours each from 9-11AM on **February 27, March 13 and 27**. Sessions will include teaching and practice. Please see Jane for more details.
- **Knitting group** will meet Sunday, **February 28th** after service
- **The season of Lent** begins on **Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17th**. Please mark your calendars now and plan to enter the season intentionally and together. We will gather for service at 7:30 p.m. We will also be marking the season with a simplified worship order, a special luncheon program as well as an invitation to be a part of a prayer group. You can learn more at the information stand on the refreshment table. All are invited!
- **Coming in April:** Benefit dinner for the **Kumi Boarding School**. Please see Becky if you'd like to help with the plans.

View from the EMC Chair

By Derek Lang



There is snow and more than a brisk cold wind in Moscow today. I asked the driver what temperature it is outside and he replied, "Ten degrees." I had to ask if he meant minus ten degrees. He quickly responded, "Of course." Given that it was below freezing, it was obvious that it had to be minus in the centigrade temperature system. But at the time he said it, that did not occur to me.

In our Christian lives, there are probably many things that are obvious and we take for granted. We get comfortable in having a relationship with God; we go to church each Sunday; say Grace at mealtime; and hopefully pray on a regular basis. What may not be so obvious or is often overlooked is our call to be witnesses to the world. Lately it seems, I have been confronted with this question of witness and what it means to share God with others. It is a struggle to share my own personal experience of being a Christian. Each time someone asks me about my faith, I stumble along in trying to describe what that means and how that changes our lives. I am hopeful that what I say makes sense to the other person. I suppose though that each time I make the attempt that I get better at sharing. Perhaps that is what it takes - practice.

Sometimes I feel intimidated about sharing my faith. But I have to remember two things: 1) even though it is our call, it is really God who is reaching out; and 2) we are not trying to "sell" something; rather we are opening a door to an opportunity - an opportunity to find love and meaning. I always remember the Apostle Paul's message to the Romans that he is not ashamed to spread the Gospel because of what it offers to those who will hear.

As we prepare for Easter in the Lenten Season, let us remember that we have the most compelling story to share - a story of a man/God who loves us and died for us. And through that, each person is loved and has a special place in life. Isn't that worth sharing?

An Appreciation Potluck for Reverend Dr. James Chuck



The "salad and dessert" pot luck honoring Rev. Chuck will be held at the home of Peggy & Larry Woon on Sunday, February 28th, beginning at 4pm.

Please RSVP and let Peggy know what dish you'd like to bring. Look for a card to sign in the social hall this Sunday, and come on the 28th to wish him well!