

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle ~ Week of 11 April - 17 April 2010

This week we pray for Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Taiwan

INTERCESSIONS

Give thanks for:

- The flourishing Christian churches in South Korea.
- Those who witness to the self-giving love of Christ in the midst of cultures that value individual prosperity.
- Those engaged in bringing together North and South Korea.
- Christians who serve Christ even when they are small minorities.
- Kimchi, sushi, tea and all the wonders from the sea.
- Enormous drums which beat the rhythms of life.



Pray for:

- Those who continue to be affected by the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima.
- An end to nuclear weapons.
- Greater protection of human rights and a decrease in political corruption.
- Those families torn apart by the separation of North and South Korea.
- Peace in this region of frequent tension and misunderstanding.
- Those in North Korea who suffer from malnutrition and face starvation.
- Hope for people in North Korea who have seen only despair, deprivation and violence.
- A just and peaceful resolution to the conflict between China and Taiwan, and an end to the ambiguous understanding of Taiwan's identity in the world.
- Those who seek power, prestige and wealth at the expense of spiritual wholeness, that they may be filled and renewed.
- Aboriginal peoples in Taiwan.

CCUMC 321-8th Street Oakland, CA 94607 Phone/Fax: 510-452-1020
Website: <http://www.chinesecommunityumc.org>



THE MESSENGER

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

April 11, 2010
Easter Two



Great Thanks to worship participants this morning: Richard, Becky, Wendy, Abby

Greeters: Frances and Charlie
Hospitality: Donna

Special Offering Today for Edmond Chinese International UMC

A few year ago, the sanctuary of Edmond Chinese International UMC in Oklahoma was burned down. Edmond Chinese International UMC is the only Chinese UM church in Oklahoma.

Recently they found an old church property to be their new church home. We rejoice over the wonderful ministry in Edmond. We also want to support the vital ministry of our sister church. A free-will offering will be taken today.

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father/Mother/ God who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.*

View from the EMC Chair
By Derek Lang



A couple weeks ago, I was summoned for jury duty. The case had to do with gun control laws and a concealed weapon. As part of the jury selection process, both attorneys asked the potential jury members what kind of history they had with guns.

Did they own guns or belong to the NRA or did they have any experience with guns like being a victim of a crime involving a gun? There were several people who had guns and some had quite a few. I was moved by some of the stories by people about being held hostage and some having relatives shot and killed. Regardless of what his/her opinion of guns, the attorneys asked the potential jury member whether he/she render a verdict based solely on the instructions of the judge – even to the extent of putting away their biases and past experiences. Some said yes; others had to be dismissed.

In this week's scripture from Acts 5:27-32, the Apostles were directed by the religious leaders, not to teach about the death and resurrection of Jesus. The Apostles heard a higher calling from God to spread the news throughout Jerusalem and ignored the religious leaders. They could have been, and were, thrown in prison, physically punished, ostracized by the community or even killed. Yet they held true to their convictions. How does one put aside fear, personal biases, and opinions to do what is right?

Sometimes I wonder to what extent am I convicted to be a disciple of, and a witness for, Jesus. There have been times when I am afraid to go against the grain of friends. I rationalize that maybe it is just not the right time to tell others about God. Or I do not want to offend someone. Certainly the act of witnessing takes many forms and much discernment. But I do pray that I might be so energized and convicted by this calling from God that I too might have courage to put aside all the worldly things that hold us back and rather step forward in faith to follow Jesus.

Worship with Us Next Week

Scripture: Burt

Prayer: Charlie

Acolyte: Michael

Greeters: Adrienne and Rich

Hospitality: Walter and Leily



Have You Met Plumb-Bob and Rebar?

By Becky Wong



I hope by now you've seen the two new characters who appeared at CCUMC a few Sundays ago. Plumb-Bob and Rebar (Donna and Ben) get their names from the actual tools and materials used to build the school in Kumi during last summer's mission trip. When you think of constructing a school, you probably envision cranes and bulldozers, cement-mixers and power saws. In Uganda, the tools were shovels, hammers, a hoe, a wire-cutter, a broken pipe, nails, some boards, and a wheelbarrow. No gloves or power tools in sight. But there was an ample supply of strong arms, powerful hands, willing hearts, smiles, and sheer determination. Many of the workers were members of the church where our YCVM leaders play key roles.

Sadly, since we left Uganda last July, work on the school has come to a halt due to lack of materials, which translates as lack of funds. But there is no lack of hope and prayers. The mission team's goal is to raise \$25,000 this year, which will be used to complete the Primary Grades wing of the school. Then classes can begin for the eager village children! You are invited to be a part of this amazing project by supporting our fundraising dinner on April 29th, 6:30 PM at Legendary Palace Restaurant in Oakland. You and your friends will be treated to a 9-course meal, which includes a delectable Peking Duck!

Tickets are available from Jane or any of the Mission Team. You can also place an ad in our program for a donation of \$50. (See Becky) There is still time to invite your colleagues, neighbors, co-workers, and relatives. And we earnestly need everyone to pray that God will be honored and glorified in every aspect of this endeavor. Remember, together we can "Touch the Heavens and Change the Earth!"

Extra, Extra! Read All About it!

We made the front page of our Annual Conference *Instant Connection* this week. Go to

<http://cnumc.org/news/detail/2018>

and catch the details. Thank you to Cate Monaghan, Director of Communications for our AC, who put her finishing touches to our submission, Thank you, Cate!

