

THE MESSENGER

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

May 23rd, 2010
Pentecost Sunday

The **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** enables us to journey in prayer through every region of the world and through every week of the year affirming our solidarity with Christians all over the world, brothers and sisters living in diverse situations, experiencing diverse problems and sharing diverse gifts. Please utilize this resource in your daily prayer.

Week 22 - Botswana, Zimbabwe / 23 May - 29 May 2010

Give thanks for:

- Health care workers who provide medical aid and education to those infected with the HIV virus.
- The Christian Council of Botswana and the Zimbabwe Council of Churches.
- Marimbas, drums, mbiras (instruments made with tuned strips of metal and played with the thumbs) and shakers.
- Choir festivals where singers join together in praise of Christ.
- Those working for a better democracy in Zimbabwe.
- Uncles, grandmothers and cousins taking care of children whose parents have died of AIDS.

Pray for:

- The leaders of government and their success in bringing economic progress, education and health care to their people.
- Landowners and the land workers, and those who are displaced by land reform.
- Reconciliation between the races in Zimbabwe, leading to a society of equality and respect.
- AIDS orphans.
- Hope for those who have little to hope for.

PRAYER

Dear God, our builder,

you have all the building materials needed to construct our societies.

You have all the strength to put wisdom on all that has fallen apart in our lives.

You have the wisdom to reshape our world.

*Inspire us with all your wisdom, strength and love,
to rebuild the broken walls in our community.*

Worship Order

✠Gathering & Centering

Welcome & announcements

Call to worship

Opening hymns

Opening prayer

✠Hearing & Reflecting on the Word

Scripture reading

Sermon

Special Music

✠Responding to the Word

Passing of the Peace

Prayers of the people

Offering + Prayer of Thanksgiving

✠Sending Out

Closing Hymn

Benediction

“Filled with the Holy Spirit”

Rev. Peter Lau

Acts 2:1-21



Great thanks to all worship participants this morning

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/God who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

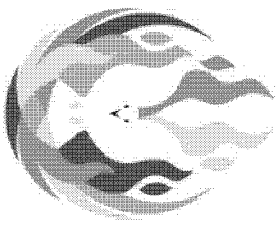
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.



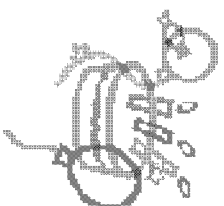
CELEBRATING PENTECOST!

The holy day of Pentecost is often thought of as the Christian church's birthday. On this day, the 50th day after Easter, we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit – the Advocate and Counselor promised by Jesus – to the community gathered in prayer. Touched by that Spirit, a new courage and passion took hold in that community to share the good news that came in Jesus. The color associated with this special day is red symbolizing the joy and fire of the Spirit. We take this wonderful opportunity to celebrate the birthday of our Faith Community at large, and also our own: CCUMC turns 123 today! Praise God for the continual movement of the Holy Spirit through all those years drawing faithful people together and sending us out with courage and passion.

Pentecost marks the beginning of a new season in the church year. This season, the longest of all stretching from Pentecost to Advent, is also known as Ordinary Time. Our Seasons of the Spirit curriculum notes that during this season we are called to reflect on and engage the question, **“What does it mean to pick up the mantle of ministry and witness, as individuals and as the church, in everyday living?”** Put another way, we might ask, “How does my faith in Jesus the Christ call me to live each day, each decision, each relationship?” I invite you to bring intention and focus to this question, holding it softly in your mind through the next few months. Interestingly, the color associated with this season is green, a sign and symbol of life and growth. I have a hunch that bringing focus to this question through our daily ups and downs will indeed spur some growth!

As we mark this special day and coming of a new season, let us open ourselves to be touched by the Holy Spirit and called, once again, into new life and a growth that heals, inspires, and takes us into the world.

Peace & Grace, Pastor Emily



CCUMC TURNS 123!

Did you know that our history is dotted around our church building? Walk upstairs to the hallway between church offices and the Sunday School wing and you'll see a timeline, blue prints and news stories about CCUMC. Head towards the upstairs conference room and you'll find pictures and bio's of our faithful pastoral staff. And finally, grab a DVD in the downstairs foyer that highlights the first 100 years! But best of all, talk to one another to hear the ways in which this community has made a difference in the community and touch each one of our lives.

UPCOMING NOTES & NEWS

- **Great gratitude and celebration** for the overwhelming generosity of our community: Over \$10,000 was raised towards the Qing Hai Earthquake relief work and over \$15,000 was raised towards the building of a new school in Kumi, Uganda. Praise God!
- We will observe **Peace with Justice Sunday** next week. This is one of 6 special Sundays in The UMC. To learn more, please visit www.umc.org
- We remember **Burt & Jane Yin** this morning as they bring a message of love and reconciliation to Buena Vista UMC for Reconciling Sunday Worship. The Reconciling Congregation movement is one committed to the full inclusion of LGBTQ sisters and brothers in the life of the UMC.
- **Intergenerational Night (IGN)** – Come one, come all to an evening of fellowship, fun and faith-building as we roll sushi, laugh and learn together. June 5th from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. Please connect with Charlie to RSVP.
- Pastor Emily will be commissioned as a Resident in Ministry at this year's Annual Conference on June 19th. You are invited and welcomed to attend the special Commissioning & Ordination worship service held in Sacramento at 3:30 p.m.