

A Letter of Thanks from our Edmond Chinese International UMC

Dear Chinese Community UMC,
Greetings to you in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ!

We have received your offering check to support our newly bought church property. We are very thankful and appreciate your love and care toward our church. May God bless you richly.

Together serving in Christ,
Puong Ong Lau
Pastor of Edmond Chinese International UMC

**Congratulations to Graduates
Class of 2010**

Please contact Peggy with your graduation accomplishment. We would like to acknowledge you (or your children) in our church bulletin!

Worship with us Next Sunday

Greeters: Frances & Charlie

Scriptures: Rich

Prayer: Jane

Sound Techs: Jenny & Janene

Hospitality: Eddie & Arlene



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THE MESSENGER

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

May 30, 2010
Pentecost 2

Gathering & Centering

- Welcome & announcements
- Call to worship
- Opening hymns
- Opening prayer

Hearing & Reflecting on the Word

- Scripture reading
- Hymn of preparation – One Body in Christ
- Sermon

Responding to the Word

- Passing of the Peace
- Prayers of the people
- Offering + Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sending Out

- Closing Hymn
- Benediction

“What is the Way of Wisdom?”

Pastor Emily Lin



Great Thanks to worship participants this morning:
Brenda, Burt, Jenny Derek
Greeters: Donna & Steve
Hospitality: Leela and Manuel

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

Bishop Goodsell; Rev. Hiorata, a Japanese minister, and Rev. Chan Hon Fan of the Chinese Methodist Church, also spoke. Rev. Mr. Chan explained in a pointed manner that there was much difference between Christ and Confucius. “Christ said, ‘Come unto me,’ but Confucius said, ‘I’ll teach if you pay me a salary.’ Christ said, ‘Go ye unto all the world and preach the gospel,’ but Confucius said, ‘If you do not come to me, I will not go to you.’” [The San Francisco Call, May 22, 1895]



Rev. Chan Hon Fan would later become a pastor of CCUMC in the early 1900s. At the time, there was much skepticism in the West and even within the Methodist church whether Asians could be brought to Christ. Rev. Chan often championed the capacity and the desire of Chinese to become Christians.

In a report of the Pacific Chinese Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the California Conference from the 1930s, there is a citation about L. David Lee’s service at the Oakland church. L. David Lee, or “Uncle David” as we used to call him, is on the plaque of our kitchen door.

I am amazed by the love of these men for God and how God was so central to their lives. What motivated Rev. Chan to be so outspoken in the face of overwhelming racism? What kept Uncle David devoted to God for nearly 70 years of a century as a continual presence and source of strength in our congregation? I want to know what was it about their relationship with God or what it did it mean for them to be a Christian that led them to live out their faith in such powerful and inspiring ways. What was their ancient Chinese secret?

There are many ways that people find Christ and become Christians. And after that, there are many ways in which people live out their Christian lives.

I am a firm believer that one way we commit ourselves to become Christ-followers is by seeing something unique and something special about those called Christians and wanting part of that in our own lives. It may be a sense of love, a sense of belonging, purpose or meaning in life, a connection to or an understanding of a force bigger than ourselves, etc. There is something that motivates and inspires us. Next time, take a moment to ask someone, “What is it about being a Christian that leads you to do [fill in the blank]?” Maybe you will find out something new to grow in your own spiritual life.

And if someone asks you, “Why do you do that,” look at that as an opportunity to share what living in Christ can be like for that other person.

Today is Peace with Justice Sunday!

Peace with Justice Sunday is one of 6 United Methodist Special Sundays with offering. The offering received is used to advocate peace and justice at home and around the world. Here are two programs that have received funding through this offering fund:

- The Ohio-based Faith Communities Uniting for Peace encourages Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs “to live from a vision of peace rooted in faith.”
 - In Liberia—in partnership with other religious and humanitarian groups, The United Methodist Church provides a place for former child soldiers to live, recreational activities to address war trauma, and basic necessities such as fresh drinking water and medical treatment.
- All local church offering dollars are forwarded to your annual conference which retains half of the proceeds and forwards the other half to the General Council on Finance and Administration. Every annual conference has a Peace with Justice Coordinator chosen by the conference and the committee headed up by that coordinator determines how the conference money will be used. Many conferences give grants to local churches and other United Methodist programs that promote peace with justice; others use the money for training in conflict resolution or other education initiatives within the conference.

In 2008, \$290,469 was given to the Peace with Justice Sunday offering.



Upcoming News and Notes

- **InterGenerational Night [IGN]** is around the corner: Saturday, June 5th from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m. This is a special time in which we share fellowship over a wonderful meal (we'll be rolling our own sushi this time!), play games that help us get to know one another and laugh (thanks, Joanna!), and learn about the gifts we each bring to this community (we'll be exploring spiritual gifts.) Each of you is encouraged to come! Please connect with Charlie to RSVP.
- We celebrate the **baptism and membership** of **Kelvin, Karrin and Carson Chen** last Sunday, May 23rd!
- **Knitting Group** will meet after Hospitality time today.