

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

This week we pray for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama
Week of 11 July - 17 July 2010

INTERCESSIONS

Give thanks for:

- Those who send money back home so their families can live.
- Those who, like Christ, have endured humiliation, torture and death because of their embodiment of love, freedom and justice.
- Continuing efforts by the church, civil governments, the UN and other agencies to create an enduring culture of peace.
- The continuing beauty and richness of the land, and those who advocate its wise and equitable use.
- The Latin American Council of Churches, especially its Mesoamerica Region, and its realization of a holistic mission of evangelism and social witness.



Pray for:

- Those people who live with the hard realities of persistent poverty, hunger, malnutrition, homelessness and unemployment.
- Farm workers and indigenous peoples, who are endangered by the loss of their lands and livelihoods, and those already displaced who seek shelter in land invasion communities.
- Street children, especially in urban areas.
- Women exploited in jobs where they are often treated as slaves.

Hiking Fellowship ~ July 17th

Becky will be leading an easy hike on the blufftop trail stretching from Half Moon Bay to Miramar, which is a wonderful course for walkers who want to be close to the ocean without getting sand in their shoes. More than 3 miles end to end, Coastside Trail offers sweeping seaside views, good bird watching, and easy beach access. You can carpool from Becky's house at 8:30 AM, or meet at Half Moon Bay Coastal Trail and Poplar Street at 9 AM and park on the street. Be sure to connect with Becky to let her know if you are planning to attend!

Check out the site at <http://www.bahiker.com/southbayhikes/halfmoon.html>

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Website: <http://www.chinesecommunityumc.org>



THE MESSENGER

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

July 11, 2010
Pentecost 8

✠Gathering & Centering

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

✠Hearing & Reflecting on the Word

- *Scripture reading*
- *Hymn of preparation –*

✠Responding to the Word

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

✠Sending Out

- *Closing Hymn*
- *Benediction*

“Innies and Outies”

Pastor Emily Lin

Luke 10: 25– 37



Great Thanks to worship participants this morning: Alvin, Becky, Ben, Wendy, Jenny
Greeters: Adrienne & Rich
Hospitality: Youth Group

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



It was a haunting evening as I heard details of the BART police Officer Johannes Mehserle verdict on Thursday. We opted to have our Thursday Night Bible Study at someone's home instead of our normal location at the church. Safety was the first thing on my mind. But the news reporter kept repeating, "a group of clergy have invited people to come to 14th and Broadway to express their feelings about the verdict... a group of clergy has come together to encourage people to respond in a non-violent manner." And I wondered if our church should have been there on the streets that evening. I do not know what we would say or do, except it felt like the role of the church would have been to be there for the community.

"And who is our neighbor?" is the soul-searching question asked by the lawyer of Jesus. It seems obvious from the story of the Good Samaritan that we should help our neighbor in need – even those who are strangers or those we would otherwise not associate with. Yet it always seems easier for us to be the priest or the Levite who passed on the other side of the street. We rationalize that this is about the other part of Oakland, not Chinatown. We should take precautions to be safe and stay away. There is nothing I could do even if I took BART all way down to Oakland. Maybe my presence just adds to the uncertainty of the situation and my not being there helps minimize the mob atmosphere. I felt full of angst that evening. The faith questions and messages seemed to be clear: Our call as Christians to offer healing to a world of brokenness; God as the only solution to find peace AND justice; being there for each other through community; etc.

The Peanuts comic strip below stuck in my mind as I thought about this angst. The first three frames clearly illustrated the idea of staying in safety of the dark versus being engaged. But I struggled with the message from the last two frames. Is it Christian to feel like this call to action is a burden of "responsibility?" Do I look "peculiar" to people because I struggle with these questions? If I decide to step out of my comfort zone, am I doing this out of obligation instead of call? What does all this struggling say about me as a Christian?



Upcoming News and Events

Altar flower Sign Up

There are still unfilled slots (and dates) on the Altar Donors Chart. It's still \$10 for each donor or couple. Please check the chart and connect with Helena to sign up.

Celebrating Faithful Leadership

Our congregation is full of faithful expressions of leadership and service - from our fabulous painters that tackled high ceilings this weekend, to intentional stewardship to the food barrel, to the incredible production of our weekly Messenger, to the steady ministry area chairs. We celebrate and give thanks for each person and their expression of service and leadership to this church and beyond. **Thank you!** This week, we in particular lift up the (emerging/growing) leadership and service of our young people: for **Jenny** and **Wendy** in their incredible dedication and passion for this Sunday School series, to **Michael's** growing trustee and computer tech contributions. Let us lift each of our young people up in prayer - for their experience of God to strengthen, their love of God to grow, and for us to be faithful mentors and fellow pilgrims along the Way. May we be open to learning from each other and seeing how God may be using our young people to lead us!

Street Fest Planning

We will hold our first Street Fest planning meeting this Saturday, July 17th, at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in brainstorming and developing creative ways to participate in this annual community event, please come! If you are unable to attend but have ideas to share, please connect with Pastor Emily.

Aeri's in Uganda!

By the wonders of modern technology, we have had frequent communication from Aeri as she began the semester teaching at Reformed Theological Seminary in Kampala, Uganda. In her blog (ycvm.blogspot.com) she tells of her days of rigorous teaching, washing clothes by hand, appreciating the availability of water for washing, enduring mosquito bites, and tending to the needs of her students. She especially asks for prayers for Modeste, who is recovering from a serious foot wound that had gotten infected, and Ndatwa Jean-Claude who contracted malaria.

Also, this weekend she is visiting the YCVM team in Kumi (pray for traveling mercies over the red-dirt roads), and will dialogue with them about the needs of the orphans and the funds CCUMC raised for the school construction project. Aeri is our Kumi "ambassador" and we all join in prayer for her health, safety, and spiritual fortitude as she brings God's love to the people of Uganda.