

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

This week we pray for Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico
Week of 18 July—24 July 2010

INTERCESSIONS

Give thanks for:

- Those who have taken in refugees and the exiled.
- Communities that have cared for one another.
- Church leaders who have spoken on behalf of the downtrodden.
- Those who try to tell the stories of the poor to those who are rich.
- Tortillas, burritos, enchiladas, cactus, corn and beans.
- Ancient temples and ancient civilizations.



Pray for:

- A peaceful settlement of the border dispute between Guatemala and Belize.
- Comfort and healing for the families and loved ones of Guatemalans killed and disappeared, and due process of law and justice for their killers.
- An end to human rights abuses by the military.
- The repentance and conversion of those who benefit from corruption.
- Justice, education and empowerment for the Maya and other indigenous peoples.
- Those who are unemployed, and those who must work in sweatshops under difficult and often dangerous conditions.
- Street children.
- All those living in poverty.
- Strength, wisdom and patience for the churches and church organizations.



THE MESSENGER

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

*July 18, 2010
Pentecost 9*

✠ Gathering & Centering

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

✠ Hearing & Reflecting on the Word

- *Scripture reading*
- *Hymn of preparation*
- *Sermon*

✠ Responding to the Word

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

✠ Sending Out

- *Closing Hymn*
- *Benediction*

“Choosing the Better Part”

Pastor Emily Lin

Luke 10: 38-42



*Great Thanks to worship participants this morning:
Peter, Burt, Matthew, Michael,
Jenny
Greeters: Brenda & Jane
Hospitality: Becky & Al Wong*

Mission Statement

We, the children of God at Chinese Community United Methodist Church, are committed to continue our heritage of spiritual growth and service to the Chinese community and beyond, sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and responding to the needs of others with justice and compassion, making disciples of all people.

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

View from the EMC Chair
By Derek Lang



As a teenager, we helped at our church Summer Day Camp. Our first job as assistants was to prepare snacks for the youth. I remember vividly taking this job seriously and becoming so frustrated with my cousin one day because he was goofing off while I worked. I ended up yelling at him. If at that moment, someone had told me that I should lighten up and be more like my cousin, I probably would have questioned the efficacy of everything I thought was doing God's work.

Fred Craddock in his commentary on Luke in the Interpretation Series of the Bible wrote, "If we censure Martha too harshly, she may abandon serving altogether." And I wonder whether Martha felt uplifted or discouraged when Jesus told her to follow Mary's example? Sometimes we believe so thoroughly that we are doing God's work, and yet it might really not be what God wants.

On the other hand, maybe Martha felt a sense of relief come over her. All the stress that was built into what she thought had to be done could now be released because that was not what Jesus wanted for her.

Discernment is a sticky thing sometimes. We think we are called in one direction and yet sometimes it is something else. It is especially challenging when we are visioning for the future of our ministries. We create certain expectations about how things should be done. And yet, sometimes God offers us another way – one that is not so burdensome and one that is more fruitful. Maybe Jesus wasn't scolding Martha. Maybe he was saving her.

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.

Thanks to CCUMC Youths

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Oakland Lodge would like to thank the CCUMC youth, Jenny, Michael, and Wendy, for serving 350 seniors lunch at Lincoln park on July 4th. Their participation and hard work is recognized by the community. Their help made it a special day for the Chinatown seniors. Thanks again!

Following Aeri:

Aeri spent last weekend with our YCVM brothers and sisters in Kumi! It was quite an adventure getting there and back. You can read all about it and get a taste of life in Uganda by visiting the blog: www.ycvm.blogspot.com. The latest prayer requests from YCVM have also been posted. Finally, we remember our Ugandan brothers and sisters who are grappling with the violence of the past week when 3 bombs detonated in Kampala and over 60 people lost their lives.

Camping Anyone?

Interested folks are invited and welcomed to head for the woods in August for a time of fellowship, fun, and connection with creation. Limited camp sites have been reserved beginning Aug. 18th - 22nd. You are welcome for a day, an overnight or the whole time. Please connect with Burt and Jane Yin for more information

New Church Office Hours

Please note that effective September 1st, 2010, our church office hours will become:

Monday—Thursday, 9:30am—2:45pm

Friday, 9:30am—3:00pm

Worship with Us Next Week ~ July 25th

Scripture: Jane Prayer: Charlie

Greeters: Donna & Steve

Hospitality: Holly

