

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle
This week we pray for The Caribbean
Week of 25 - 31 July 2010

INTERCESSIONS

Give thanks for:

- The Caribbean Council of Churches.
- Warm seas and idyllic beaches.
- Calypso, reggae, plena, merengue, salsa, and all the new rhythms being created in these islands.
- Pepperpot stew, cou-cou, bananas, sweet potatoes, conch.
- Patois, Creole, Srana, Bajan and other languages which fill these islands with meaning.

Pray for:

- Political stability and ethical, honest leadership from those in power.
- Improved economic status for all peoples.
- An end to exploitation and oppression based on race, religion or rank.
- Church leadership, ecumenism, and tolerance.
- Improved health for all.
- Those affected by hurricanes and floods.

PRAYER

Gracious and compassionate God,
faithful to all your promises,
supplier of our needs,
may we never underestimate
the value of all that you afford us;
nor the usefulness of the endowments you give
for the realization of your purposes.
May we never so take for granted
the gifts your bounteous grace provides
as to become victims of the callousness
that produces an abundance of waste.
And save us, we ask you, from becoming
purveyors of the careless and irresponsible disposal
of the waste we produce.



THE MESSENGER

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

July 25, 2010
Pentecost 10

✠ 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*

***“Dear God, Please Help
Me (Again!)”***

***Vince Wong, Certified
Lay-Speaker***

Luke 11: 1 - 13



*Great Thanks to worship
participants this morning:
Jane, Charlie, Becky, Wendy &
Kelvin
Greeters: Donna & Steve
Hospitality: Holly*

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.

View from the EMC Chair

By Derek Lang



Dr. Sharon Bray, author of *When Words Heal: Writing through Cancer*, described her visit to a terminally ill student in her final hours of life. It was an intimate moment to be with the student and a small group of family members. Death was certain and the stark reality was that all they could do now was to cherish being together. Dr. Bray called it a privilege to be present in that moment of grace.

Every once in awhile, we are invited to be in the presence of others at those times of intimacy when everything boils down to life, death, and the most basic connections between people. We find ourselves in a sacred place and time where we become aware of our humanity and what it means have an intimate relationship with God and others.

When the Disciples asked Jesus how to pray, Jesus taught them this *Lord's Prayer* as an invitation to enter into this sacred space with God – a place where we can know God and have God to know us. If we settle our hearts to be in a quiet moment, we can hear the sense of intimacy of one wholly in love with, and wholly reliant, on God:

Our Father – an address of closeness and endearment

Hallowed be your name – an adoration of God's Holiness

Give us each day our daily bread – a total reliance on God to provide for us

Forgive us our sins – a yearning to be made right

Lead us not into temptation – a plea for protection

When we strip away all our daily distractions – the busyness and fast pace of life – we come face to face with our God. It is a privilege to be in such an intimate relationship with God Almighty – One who is infinite in power and wisdom; one who loves and accepts us unconditionally. An invitation is extended to us to be in God's presence – to listen, to speak, and just to be. That is truly a moment of grace.

Upcoming News and Events

All Church Clean Up & Clean Out - Saturday, Aug. 7th

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

It's time for some mid-summer cleaning! Please mark your calendars and plan to share some of your time, energy and sweat to tidy, polish, spruce and otherwise clean our beloved church buildings.

All ages welcomed...for an hour or all 4!

You're Invited: Spiritual Response to the Grant Murder/Mehserle Trial

Area clergy have organized a worship and meeting for faithful people to gather and consider our responses in the aftermath of the murder and trial. Thursday, July 29th. Details to come. If you are interested in attending, please connect with Derek or Pastor Emily. Thursday BBQ is planning to meet at church before heading out together.

Pastor Emily @ NFAAUM

Please note that Pastor Emily will be out of the office from Wednesday through Friday at the National Federation of Asian American United Methodists this week. She will be slow in responding to emails. Please call for any pastoral emergencies!

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 ~ August 1st, 2010

Scripture Focus: Luke 12: 13-21

Scripture: Brenda

Prayer: Becky

Music: Matthew

Acolyte: Michael

Sound Tech: Michael

Greeters: Frances & Charlie

Hospitality: Leela & Manual



BRIEF REPORT OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Discontinuation of Churches

The annual conference approved the discontinuation of the following churches. The reasons for discontinuation are due to decreasing and not enough members:

Corning UMC in Corning
cisco

Hamilton UMC in San Francisco

Rising Hope UMC in Alameda

Faith UMC in San Leandro

Dunsmuir UMC was also recommended for discontinuation, but some of their members want to keep their church open, so after a lot of discussion, this issue was referred to the cabinet for further study.

Submitted by: Walter Chew, Lay Member



I attended the California-Nevada Annual Conference in Sacramento on June 16-19, 2010. Every church must send their pastors and lay members to this yearly conference.

Last week, Jane Yin reported on five legislative resolutions. Today, I will report on more resolutions. As Jane mentioned, it would be impossible to try to report on the many issues that took place.

Mission Uganda

There's still time to join Wendy and Jenny, as they lead our summer Intergenerational Sunday School! For the past two Sundays, more than 25 participants learned about how CCUMC became involved with the people of this faraway land. Using games and group participation, we learned about Aeri's passion for Uganda. Aeri has been teaching music and spreading God's love in Uganda for more than ten years. Last year, 8 fortunate members of our church family accompanied her to Uganda to help lay the foundation of a boarding school in Kumi. Now, all of us can journey there vicariously through the information gathered and shared.

It's been a wonderful journey so far; and there are still SIX weeks to get on board. Attending previous classes is not a prerequisite. Drop in and be transported! Enter through the church annex doors by 9:30AM Sunday.

A film clip from "War Dance" will be shown this Sunday (July 25) during class. The full movie will be shown following worship (12:45pm). This absorbing documentary tells the story of a primary school's journey from an Internally Displaced Person's (IDP) Refugee Camp in northern Kampala, the capital city, to take part in a national music and dance competition. In highlighting the story of several students, we gain a deeper understanding of the violent forces and great challenges that have affected so many young lives.

Item 19: Confronting Heterosexism

The annual conference approved this item which states that the churches in this conference will say to the youth and young adults: Come join us. We need your clarity and energy as we realize the goal of every local church to become a base for the mission of confronting unjust heterosexist structures, including those within our own church, and embracing people long told they are not welcome at church.

Item 31: Clergy electronic Mail

The annual conference approved the recommendation that all active clergy in the California-Nevada Annual Conference shall obtain and maintain a valid Email address which is accessible by conference staff and the public.

This is to provide greater accessibility and to acknowledge the importance of electronic communication.

Item 33: Local Church Internet Presence

Each local church in this Conference shall maintain an internet presence in some form.

Each church shall ensure that information published on those sites is monitored and updated on a regular basis to maintain its accuracy.

Each church is encouraged to expand its Internet presence to included social media, such as Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, etc. or a stand-alone website.

CCUMC is already complying with this item.

