

Volume 2009: May

April 29, 2009



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Reflector

A Note From Your Pastor

"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord."

-Psalms 31:24-

Dear friends,

We are now in the season of Eastertide in our Church's calendar year. This reminds us that our celebration of the risen Christ continues. As Easter people, we have the privilege to move forward in hope, knowing that our Lord prepares us for whatever lies ahead in life. Alexander Pope (1688--1744) once said that "Hope Springs Eternal." Yes, especially for us as Easter people!

Worry is something that happens to all people in life. Perhaps it is nature's way of alerting us to dangers. But it is how we deal with worry that can make a big difference in life. Do worries have control over us, or do we have control over our worries? Do we keep them in perspective?

The Bible has quite a few things to say to help us keep worries in perspective. Jesus asks "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? (Matthew 6:27). Jesus also said; "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. (Matthew 6:34) And St. Paul says: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6) and more.

Yes, in our realities, there are worries, but as children of God, we should not let them dominate our lives. Move forward in Christ, casting out our fears, turning our worries into prayers, and taking heart before God. After all, God promises to supply all of our needs! As scripture says, "When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. (Proverbs 3:24)

I want to remind you that we have a joint prayer time every Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. with two tenant Hispanic congregations. Not only for these three congregations, but our church door is open to the whole community, to whomever wants to pray. As your pastor and friend, I encourage all of you to join this prayer meeting to experience God's healing power in all areas of our lives. We experience hope that does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts. As the Prophet Isaiah says "You will know that I am the Lord; those who hope in me will not be disappointed." (Isaiah 49:23)

My prayer is that all of you will be fortified for your life's journey through your faith and hope in the Risen Christ!

God bless you all,

Rev. Seung Eun Grace Lee



Suzie's Info Column



Thanks to George Nishimori - he did 'flip' the pancakes at our Easter breakfast. And, thank you to all the men who helped prepare the breakfast which those partaking truly enjoyed. Also, thanks to Darrell Truitt for brewing the coffee and hot water the first Sunday of each month at our fellowship hour.

Molly Elloit, infant daughter of Tim & Colleen, was baptised at our Easter worship service. Grandmother is Shirley Luce and great-grandparents are Merv & Sachie Thomas. Members of the Thomas family attended the baptism. Molly did not even say "peep" during the entire service. She is a cute and wonderful child. Tim & Colleen should be proud of Molly.

And, also at our Easter service, Dan and Alyce Schwab were welcomed as new members. They moved to Orcutt from Santa Barbara - while residing there they attended the Japanese Methodist Church. Alyce is a great painter and does beautiful sceneries.

John Tanouye, eldest son of Yoshi and Rona was

married on April 18th in Los Angeles. His wife is Ruth whose father is a pastor. We saw John grow up in our church and he now has a great job in L.A. as a computer expert. Much happiness to John & Ruth.

Celebrating birthdays during the month of April are Kane Araki, Kathy Maas, Young Moon, and Margaret Lau. A Happy Birthday to each and may they enjoy many more 'special days'.

Mary Jarvis, our super Sunday School teacher who is Assistant Superintendent of Schools in San Luis Obispo county, not only appeared in a television interview but was also featured in the S.L.O. Tribune. Mary stated that due to funding shortfalls there will be no layoffs of teachers but possibly cuts in nonessential classes. She further stated that it is impossible to keep the cuts away from the classrooms, such as art and band classes. Christ UMC is fortunate to have Mary as a member as she is so multi-talented.

Our sympathy to Pastor Lee on the death of a niece of one of her family members.



Mother's Day - May 10th

80th Anniversary Celebration



All of us are starting to get excited about the 80th Anniversary Celebration of Christ United Methodist Church to be held on **Sunday, October 18, 2009**. We are planning a day filled with worship, fellowship, entertainment, and food, and are hoping to have a great turnout for what we hope to be a memorable and very special homecoming day. We are asking that you put this day on your calendar, and invite anyone who feels a connection to our church family to join us that special day. In upcoming weeks, we will be sending out invitations, and offering tickets for the event. These tickets will cost \$5 each, which will help cover the costs of the food and supplies needed. We are not planning a potluck for that day - rather, we are thinking of having a catered event (maybe with the men barbecuing!) where we can all relax and enjoy one another. Please note: if you, or someone you know, would like to attend but cannot afford the \$5, please let us know. Tickets are available for anyone who wants to attend! And please let us know if you can think of anyone who might appreciate an invitation. We will be glad to send them one!

Also, we would like for you to think about your dearest memories surrounding our church - the people, the events, the joyful times and the bittersweet times. Please write them down, to be shared as part of our history together. Find your old pictures to share as well. We have a committee who will be putting together a presentation of our history together, and they need your help. We will be providing more information and asking for your input as we get closer to the date.

If you have any questions, please call Kay Moreland at 937-1740 or Margaret Lau at 937-7530.

Special Seniors Program

MAY 8, 2009 FRIDAY, 11:00 A.M.,



TOPIC: "PLEASE DON'T FALL!"

Guest Speaker: Mr. Tom McLaughlin, MS, PT

from Gentiva Home Health Center, San Luis Obispo

Music Entertainment:

by Seniors Trio Band

Lunch will be provided!



All are welcome!

Please invite your friends and neighbors, especially those who need friendship and companionship.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS (March 2009)

Corinne & Michael Araki-Kawaguchi –

Donations for Michael, Sumi & Kiik birthdays; in memory of Isamu Minami; Reflector

Alpha & Mary Takagi – In appreciation and Nichigo ministry

E. Joy Kagawa - Reflector Rev. and Mrs. Paul Motzer

Lynn Kumagai Taka Sears

John & Teruko Sharpe Anonymous – Senior Ministry



People in Our Prayer List

✦ Rev. Claudia Genung-Yamamoto and her family for their missionary work in Japan.

✦ Rev. Tim Boyle and his family for their missionary work in Japan.

✦ Jose Auyeung

✦ Lola Watts

✦ Sam Fast

✦ Mary Stringfellow

✦ Don Bloom

✦ Yolanda Colon

✦ Carl Turner

✦ Joe Rodriguez

✦ Mindy Garcia

✦ Barbara Puckett

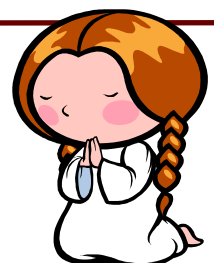
✦ Don Nichols

✦ Karen Johnson

✦ Manny Ramirez

✦ Joyce Ujano

✦ Ed Clayton



REFLECTOR

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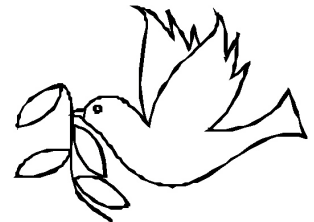
"A Church for All People"

219 Mary Drive
Santa Maria, CA 93458
Phone: 805-925-3116
Fax: 805-925-9100
Parsonage: (805) 349-0567
Email: christ_umc@hotmail.com
Non-profit postal authorization
#275219

Pastor: Rev. Seung-Eun Grace Lee
Japanese Language: Rev. Mark Moon

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Our Mission is to be --
"A Church for All People"



Our Vision is --
We seek to grow in the love of God through meaningful
worship and serving, and to grow in the love of all our
neighbors by making everyone truly welcome, and by
helping our neighbors near and far.

Worship & Regular Programs:

- Sunday Worship Service, 10:30 am
- Sunday School, 9:30 am (Adults)
10:30 am (Children)
- Bible Study & Sharing Group, Wednesday 7:00 pm
- Japanese Worship Service, 1st Saturday 11:00 am
- Prayer Meeting, Friday 6:30 pm

Visit us on the internet at <http://www.smchristumc.org>