

Volume 2009: October

September 29, 2009



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Reflector

A Note From Your Pastor

Dear Christ Family,

Once again the fall season is upon us, but this time we've got a big party coming! Only a couple of weeks are left before our 80th anniversary celebration! The church is buzzing with excitement, everybody has tasks of preparation to complete, and the big day is right around the corner. It is truly an exciting time to be at Christ UMC. In this issue of the Reflector, I'm going to spend just a little time catching up with all of you about some of the "goings on" around the church! We certainly wouldn't want any of our loved ones and prayer partners to miss out on some of the neat things that are happening around here.



There are many special details that are going into our 80th celebration that should make it a memorable event for all attending. There is a lot of church cleaning and decorating going on. A renewed look to the narthex, remodeled office and office hallway, and extra love and cleaning of sanctuary and fellowship hall are just a few of the preparations. The decorations team is working hard to make Japanese flower arrangements and color schemes that will complement both the sanctuary for worship and the luncheon afterward. There is going to be fabulous music at the worship service, including selections played by former pastors! The Nichigo worship group will sing for us in the worship time and do a special program during the luncheon. There have been more than 200 people who have responded, so we're going to have the luncheon in the larger, more spacious venue of the Veterans' Hall. We are so thrilled to have so many people who care about our church come and celebrate with us!

By the way, we are also having some great special guest speakers that day! Bishop Roy Sano, former Associate Pastor at Christ UMC and former Bishop of the Cal-Pac Conference, will be preaching during the morning service. Later during the luncheon, Akiko Miyake-Stoner, current seminary student and daughter of former pastor Rev. Nobuko Miyake-Stoner, will speak to those gathered at the Veterans' Hall. God has truly blessed this church with gifted ministers over many years. It is an incredible blessing to be able to reconnect and enjoy hearing from them again!

I know those of you who have followed the notes of the 80th Anniversary Committee closely may already know some of these things. However, I want you to know that I am completely amazed and honored to be a part of this celebration. More importantly, I am honored to be part of the ministry of this church—and humbled to be its pastor. Please do come and be a part of the festivities if you can. We'd love to see you! For those who are unable to attend, please don't forget to continue to include us in your daily prayers. God has been blessing this church for 80 years—but God's definitely not finished with us yet!

See you on October 18th!!!!

Pastor Anna



Suzie's Info Column



Our deepest sympathy to Ben Dohi of Arroyo Grande on the passing of his dear wife, Ty. Surviving besides husband Ben are two sons and her four siblings. She was a member of the Yamaguchi family. Also, to Helen Kawaguchi on the death of her beloved sister, Carol Kobara. And to all members of the Furukawa family on the passing of Kingo. The Furukawas were long time farmers of Santa Maria.

Apologies to Dan & Alyce Schwab. They have been together for 48 years, not 28 as mentioned in last month's Reflector. The Schwabs attended an Elder Hostel program in Newburg, OR during the week of 20 September. They traveled by train to and from Oregon and had a great time.

Harry Kadota underwent a triple by-pass operation early this month. Due to complications he had to spend a little over three weeks in the hospital. He is currently undergoing therapy at home. A quick recovery to you Harry .

Kathy & Hitoshi Yamada, both missionaries, will be going to an out-of-the-way place near Rosario, Mexico to help an orphanage - it will be a working mission for them. Also, many thanks to Kathy for sharing her experiences in Brazil at our Sept. 13 worship service. She is not only an excellent speaker but a very interesting spokeswoman. Hopefully she can speak to us again and share more of her and Hitoshi's life not only in Brazil but all over the U.S.

Celebrating birthdays this month are Al Hyosaka and John Fox. John had 14 of his long time friends honor him as he turned 80. Many more birthdays to both. Bo & Margaret Lau celebrated their wonderful life together this month. They are our handsome couple of our church. Bo & Margaret may you both enjoy 'oodles' of more years together.

Our long time member and friend of so many, Darrell Truitt, will be moving to Polaris, Montana on the first of October. We just can't tell you how much we will miss him. Everyone is hoping the wintry cold will soon bring him back to us. Darrell has done so much for our church - don't know who can replace him for the work he has done. Nevertheless, Darrell, we will all miss you and want to wish you good luck and happiness in Polaris which is a remote area. He said the nearest town with a population of 5,000 is 30 minutes away and the nearest Costco is 1-1/2 hours away - so he will be taking lots of reading material and a Dish will be installed at the home so he won't be too lonesome, but as friendly as he is I'm sure he will have many friends there before too long.

Folks, don't forget our 80th anniversary on the 18th of October. There are over 200 reservations for the luncheon which will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Hall. See you all there!

People in Our Prayer List

- ✦ Kathy & Toshi Yamada on their mission trip to Mexico (10/8 to 10/11)
- ✦ Rev. Claudia Genung-Yamamoto and her family for their missionary work in Japan.
- ✦ Rev. Tim & Juji Boyle for their missionary work in Japan.
- ✦ Mary Hyosaka (cancer) ✦ Jose Auyeung (cancer)
- ✦ Masako Nakamura (stroke) ✦ Michael Saldivar (diabetes)
- ✦ Erwin Maas (medical procedures) ✦ Harry Kadota (heart) ✦ Mindy Garcia (tumor)
- ✦ Families of those recently passed away:
 Tim Nelson Joe Mori Suzie Kawaguchi Ty Dohi



PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR CURRENT PRAYER REQUESTS. Persons who are on the prayer list will rotate off after four weeks unless someone asks to continue them on the list. Thanks for your continued prayers for those in need!

Final 80th Anniversary Celebration Update

Pastor Anna spoke for all of us in her message on the cover of this Reflector – our celebration is only a couple of weeks away! I do want to add a couple of things. First of all, as Pastor said, we have so many people planning to join us for worship and fellowship that we are unable to accommodate everyone for lunch at our church. So the meal has been moved to the Veteran's Community Center, 313 W. Tunnell St., just a few blocks away from the church. Maps will be available at the worship service at our sanctuary that morning. Please plan to stay for a short time after the service for the dedication of our new Japanese maple tree, and for a group portrait. We encourage you to carpool as much as possible that day, due to limited parking.



Also, I wanted to remind everyone of the 80/80 challenge. Please join together with friends or family, or make a single donation yourself, to donate \$80 in honor of our 80 years of ministry. This money will be used to further the missions of Christ United Methodist Church. This can be sent to the church address.


If you need hotel accommodations, a discounted rate is available at the Fairfield Inn and Suites, 2061 North Roemer Court, Santa Maria, California 93458, phone: 1-805-925-8500. This is a new hotel located just off the North Broadway exit.

Finally, if you haven't obtained tickets for the luncheon, it's not too late. Please call Kay Moreland at (805) 937-1740 for tickets. They can be mailed to you, or held at the door for you to pick up. Meal tickets are only \$5 each, and are being subsidized by church funds and by a generous donation. Keep in mind, this is a buffet luncheon with a seated program after everyone has gotten their food. We are sorry, but takeout meals are not available.

We can hardly wait to see each and every one of you! Blessings!!

Kay Moreland

All God's People in
All Places,
And in
All Times,
Are Called to Love
And to Serve.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS (July/August 2009)

Sonhye Kim
Elaine Gilmer
Pamela Hubbard

Thank You

Suyemi Matsumoto - In memory of sister Francine Saruwatari
Alpha & Mary Takagi – for Nichigo ministry
Yasuko Koga - Kane & Peggy Araki's 66th Wedding Anniversary
Bowman & Margaret Lau - Missionaries to Japan
Tak & Hina Shigenaka - In memory of Joe Mori

In Honor of Our 80th Anniversary
Peter & Kikuyo Henmi
Corinne & Michael Araki-Kawaguchi
Bowman & Margaret Lau

Is Your
Pledge
Up to Date?

REFLECTOR

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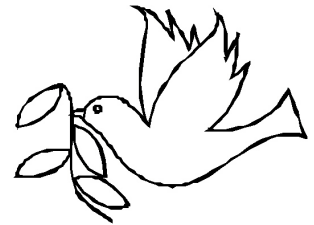
"A Church for All People"

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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Anna Camphouse
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

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