



# Spirit

Artesia-Cerritos United Methodist Church  
18523 S. Arline Ave., Artesia CA 90701

*Where friendship and faith grow in a multicultural community*

The Rev. Dr. Brian Suk-Boo Lee, Pastor  
Genia Jackson, Editor

February 24, 2010 — No. 10-02

## I wondered

I woke up early one morning about 2:00 a.m. I went to the kitchen, got a glass of milk, and sat at the table. I was a little upset because I woke up so early. There was a pad of paper and a pen on the table. I looked out my window and started wondering about things, and this is what I wrote. As you know, there is power in prayer and answers do come. The answers come in God's time, not ours. Sometimes we wonder if he hears us.

### I Wondered

I looked out my window at early morning

I saw a sky filled with dark angry clouds and I felt cold

I wondered where is the warmth our Love gives? My heart weeps in pain.

I looked out my window at early morning

I saw son against father, daughter against mother, people against each other

I wondered where is the warmth our Lord gives? My heart weeps in pain.

I looked out my window at early morning

I saw the flash of a gun going off, a mother stood crying over a son who lay dead at her feet

I wondered where is the warmth our Lord gives? My heart weeps in pain.

I looked out my window at early morning

I saw greed, hunger and wars knocking at my door and I was so afraid

I wondered where is the warmth our Lord gives? My heart weeps in pain.

I looked out my window at early morning

I closed my eyes and breathed the name of Jesus and locked it in my heart. When I opened my eyes the clouds were being chased away, for the sun was rising in the heavens. The Father Almighty had painted the heavens in the most beautiful hues of gold, pink and coral, and the Father smiled on me as he touched my heart.

I wondered at the warmth our Lord gives. My heart sang in glories praise, and I sang my song of praise for all to hear.

I know, as you know, this world is filled with greed, hunger and wars. The effects of all this is sadness, despair, pain, anger, never finding oneself, and never feeling fulfilled. But we don't have to be this way. We have the best tool in all the world to fight with. We have Jesus Christ.

*Call upon me in the day of trouble.*

*I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.*

(Psalm 50:15)

The Father Almighty sent his Son to teach us how to live and how to love one another. Now it is up to us to do our part. We must study his word daily, and we must use what we learn. What good is it to have all this knowledge of the Lord and not use it? When we use this knowledge and give it to others, the warmth that lodges in our hearts will work to buffer us from the world that the devil rules over. I am not saying we will not feel sadness, despair, pain, anger, because we will; but we have our Lord to lean on. We have a solid foundation; we have a taproot; we have a lifeline. And this solid foundation, taproot, lifeline, is our Lord Jesus Christ.

*You are my refuge and my shield;*

*I have put my hope in your word.*

(Psalm 119:114)

We must sing His praises at all times. We must sing loud so all can hear. We must plant the seeds of our Lord Jesus Christ so wonder will grow, so questions will be asked. Who is this Jesus Christ? Why do you keep on singing about Him? How do I get to know Him?

*Everyone who calls on the name*

*Of the Lord will be saved.*

(Joel 2:32)

We must plant the seeds, and we must water them with the word of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We will find all we need in the Holy Bible, for it is all truth. We can also strengthen our faith by taking part in Bible study groups, going to church on Sunday and giving this day to the Lord as it should be, and fellowship with other believers. And when God calls, we must answer. It does not pay to do battle with God. He will always win.

(Concluded on p. 3)

## Care Corner

Elsie Aballera, sister of Bobbie Romana and Rafael Lagado, fell at her home in the Philippines. She underwent surgery for broken leg bones and is now recuperating at home.

Carroll Askland, Glen Askland's father, has been experiencing health problems.

Gwen DuPree underwent surgery

February 23 at La Palma

Intercommunity Hospital. The surgery went well, and she was to go home within a day or two.

Joyce Samuel is under doctors' care at home.

## Ongoing Concerns

Sonny Abad, Doug Appel, Benita (Laura Miculs' stepdaughter), Jannine Bielesch, Bob Bowman (Florence Hanson's cousin), Sue Blythe (Clayton and Diane Young's aunt), Joe Buckalew, Robert Cameron (Rosalie Henson's son-in-law), Arcelino Carolino, Usha Christi, Charlotte Crawford, Doris Duncan, Betty Enderle, Max de los Reyes, Primitiva de los Reyes, Fely Fagaragan, Felicia Ferrer, Doris Fry, Dick Gaskins, Jack Gaskins, Joe Graper, Helen Hinsdale, Jewel Holt, Marcheta Horsfall, Verne Johnson, Patricia Howie-Jones, Constance Jones, Stephen Jones, Irena (Laura Miculs' sister-in-law), Michelle Kolb, Troy Kubinski, Reynado Lagado, Edna Laurena (a friend of Gloria Gabertan), Steve Maranon, Florence Marino, Rick McDougall, Betty McDougall, Sam McDougall, Bernandette Menezes, Henry Miskell, Wayne Muller (Mary Slattery's brother), Norma Navarro, Dr. Kirit Panya, Betty Prosser, Rizalina Joco (Josie de los Reyes' sister), Bob Rohdenberg, Randy Schlotthauer, Hermy Serna, Ninee Shaw, Ed Smith, Allan and Dee Staal, Iza Tolentino (Marge Saldana's aunt), John Viksna, Spodra Vejan, Milli Watt, Mary Jean Wheatley, Rhonda Wheatley, Margie White (a friend of Betty McDougall) Jo Ann Wilson, Bob Ziretta, Janice Zor (a friend of Blenda Brandt) . . . Our state, our nation and our world.



## With Sympathy

The sympathy of the church family goes out to Gordon Lee and family and extended family on the death of his granddaughter, Cara Alexandra Lee, only child of Randy and Jackie Lee. Cara died in an automobile accident early in the morning on February 14, 2010. She was 20 years old. She was preceded in death by her beloved grandmother, Ethel.

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February 24, 2010

We're on the web!  
acumc.net

*Open hearts, open minds,  
open doors*

**Three Lenten dinners to feed the body and soul**

With thanks to the volunteers who came forward to host our Lenten dinners, we will share meals around the tables March 10, 17 and 24. Guest speaker at the dinner on March 17 will be the Rev. Inman Moore. A native of Mississippi, he moved to California in the early 1960s where he served as pastor of a number of local churches. He was interim pastor of Artesia-Cerritos UMC in the late '80s and again in the mid-'90s. He retired from his position as minister of visitation at Burbank UMC last year. His fourth time to retire, he and his wife, Nellie (who is also retired), live in Pasadena.



The Rev. Jan Wiley will bring the message March 17. She has served as pastor of Community UMC of Huntington Beach for the past five years. Prior to this appointment, she was pastor at California Heights UMC in Long Beach. She and her husband, the Rev. Mark Wiley, reside in Fountain Valley. He currently serves as pastor at Mesa Verde UMC in Costa Mesa.

Dr. Ed Bloomfield is our speaker on March 24. Ed was youth minister of Artesia Methodist Church for the 1963-64 academic year while the Rev. Sam Sallie was pastor. Ordained in 1966, he taught classes in philosophy and religion at Cerritos College for 35 years and then retired in 2003. Residents of Artesia for many years, he and his wife Veronica Little Bloomfield (who was born in Artesia) are extremely active in the Artesia Historical Society — and with their three-and-a-half-year-old grandson Henry William Canales.. His Lenten message will focus on some of the more difficult to understand parables of Jesus and their relevance to our daily life.

Cost for each dinner is \$6.00 for teenagers and adults and \$3.00 for youngsters age 4 through 12. Proceeds from the meal are used to pay for the food and provide an honorarium to the speaker. Child care will be provided. Everyone is welcome to attend the program presented at no charge. Sign up sheets for the meals are available each Sunday. The deadline to sign up for a meal is by Noon on the Monday prior to the meal so those fixing the meal will know how much food to prepare.



**Pastor Lee to return from  
mission trip March 3**

Pastor Lee is with other members of the California-Pacific Conference who are participating in the Philippine Mission Team. He will return to the office Thursday, March 4. The Rev. Joy Price, pastor of La Mirada UMC, is "on call" for pastoral emergencies while Pastor Lee is away. Genia is in the office as usual while our pastor is gone. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please be sure to leave a message on the answering machine if you do not reach a "live voice." Our youth director, Roy Boncato, will preach February 28, with members of our youth group helping to lead the service and our Praise Team leading the music.



**An Evening of Praise  
Saturday, February 27  
4:00 p.m.**

Meaningful worship including an inspiring message from a member of the congregation and upbeat music from our Praise Team create a service to lift your spirits each time our monthly contemporary service is held. This month's service is Saturday, February 27, at 4:00 p.m. Tony Solomon, will bring the message. After the service, a light meal is shared around the tables in the hall.

**Spaghetti dinner is April 10**

**It's on the calendar!**

Chef Joe Colacecchi is coming to cook our 31<sup>st</sup> annual spaghetti dinner Saturday, April 10, 2010. That meal is so-o-o-o-tasty and we have such fun working together! What warm fellowship and sense of community has been built! Add the dollars these dinners have generated for the ministries of our church budget, and we have surely been blessed as we strive to serve God together.

Mark your calendar and plan now as to how you will help when the sign-up sheets become available in March — mark your calendar and plan to attend!



## Sharing our love as United Methodist Women

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

— The Purpose of the United Methodist Women

### Some mission projects of our local unit that one can do at home —

#### ♥ Labels for Education —

Help the David and Margaret Home for Children get free stuff by saving UPCs from Campbell's products. Products include Campbell's soups, Spaghettios, V-8 juices, Pepperidge breads, Goldfish crackers, etc; Swanson broth and canned chicken, and Prego Italian sauces. A brochure is available in the church office.

The David and Margaret Home for Children was established as an orphanage in 1910 by the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. David & Margaret Youth and Family Services specializes in foster parenting and foster family services, the adoption process and adoption services, self injury help and the treatment of self-injurious behaviors, addiction treatment services and addiction recovery, and the assessment and treatment of learning difficulties.

#### ♥ Pop Tab Collection Program —

Support the Orange County Ronald McDonald House by collecting pop tabs from aluminum cans. A pop tab is the piece of metal that opens aluminum cans. Like the can, the pull-tab is recyclable and helps our environment while helping a worthwhile organization. Pop tabs can be collected in any type of container except milk jugs or glass containers.

Known as The House That Love Built®, the Orange County Ronald McDonald House program helps seriously ill children and their families by providing a safe, welcoming and warm home-away-from-home for families whose children are being treated at a nearby medical facility.

#### ♥ Collect lightly used baby items for the ABC Teen Parent Program.

Jeanne and Art Culver facilitate this project. They are members of our church's Missions (Church in the World) Committee. Jeanne is also active in the UMW. Lightly used clothing and other items for little ones two and under are collected and taken to the school right before Easter and shortly before Thanksgiving. Recognizing that parenthood is not easy at any age, we strive to help the teens in the program who need a helping hand.

**Labels, pop tabs and the baby items may be placed in the box available right inside the door to the church office.**

#### ♥ Bake cookies for the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion Adoption Committee of Cerritos

A few years ago a group of Cerritos citizens formed a committee to support the troops of the 1st CEB based at Camp Pendleton. When Marines who are a part of this battalion are shipped overseas, comfort packages are sent to them after they arrive at their destination. Included in the packages are home-baked cookies. The cookies can be baked ahead of time and kept in your freezer until its time for a shipment. Talk with UMW President Betty McDougall about what kind and how the cookies are to be packaged.

#### ♥ Collect items for Layette Kits for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

UMCOR's mission is to alleviate human suffering—whether caused by war, conflict, or natural disaster—with open minds and hearts to all people. Our mission project for the UMW Love Tea was to provide items for Health Kits needed for Haiti. We received 27 complete kits, and items that will allow us to create 25 more! Hallelujah! Our mission project for the UMW Picnic in July will be to provide Layette Kits for UMCOR.

#### Kit Contents

- (6) Cloth Diapers — (2) Diaper Pins — (2) Shirts or (2) one-piece body suits (“onesies”)
- (2) Baby Washcloths — (2) Gowns or Sleepers — (2) Receiving Blankets
- (1) Sweater open in the front

All items included in the kits must be **NEW**. Do not include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. Since strict rules often govern product entry into other countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items—nothing more. Wrap kit contents in one of the receiving blankets and fasten the blanket with one of the diaper pins. There's a box available in the church office for your donations. Please be sure to label your donation Layette Kit.

(Conclusion from p. 1)

So let us share the warmth of God with all people around us, and let us feel His love in our hearts. Let our faith shine and draw attention to it.

*By faith Abraham obeyed and went,  
even though he did not know  
where he was going.  
(Hebrews 11:8)*

*The joy of the Lord is your strength.  
(Nehemiah 8:10)*

*Rita Bilevich  
February 15, 1995*

Editor's note:

Rita shared her thoughts about stewardship during our stewardship campaign in November 2009. She shared several of her poems at that time. Thank you, Rita, for allowing the church to share one of those poems in our pastor's space while he is helping to build a church in the Philippines.

### Super Bowl of Caring Results



On the field the New Orleans Saints won — in our “Souper Bowl” contest to bring food and donate dollars, the Indianapolis Colts won. The biggest winner of all was our local Food Bank at New Life Community Church in Artesia. Thank you one and all who supported this outreach project!