



Ka Leo Mekokiko

"The Voice of Methodism"

Volume 26 Number 6

June - July 2010

2010 Cal-Pac Annual Conference to have a learning focus

This year the California-Pacific Annual Conference Sessions will be from June 17-20, 2010 at the University of Redlands in California. The theme this year is "New Ministries and New Places for New People." This is one of the four areas of focus set by the 2008 General Conference.

"Learning Circles" have been added to the usual agenda of legislative and plenary sessions, and the special worship services for retiring clergy, ordination, etc. There are three "Learning Circles" - one dealing with New Ministries, the second with New Places and the last with New People. These sessions will provide those attending an opportunity to listen to expert practitioners in order to engage in dynamic and practical discussions related to the Annual Conference theme.

This year the Hawaii District will recognize the Rev. Dr. Theodore Lesnett who will be retiring this July. The district will also bid farewell to the Rev. Fred Agtara of Guam UMC and the Rev. Gilbert Stones of Parker UMC. It will welcome the Rev. Jack T. Greenleaf to Kailua UMC and the Rev. Johann Osias to Guam UMC. [The appointment at Parker UMC will be announced in the near future.]

District Office will be closed during Annual Conference Session

The Hawaii District Office will be closed from Tuesday, June 15 through Monday, June 21 while the staff is attending the Annual Conference session in California. The District staff will return on Tuesday, June 22.

You can leave a message for the District staff or any delegate (lay or clergy) at the Message Center during the Annual Conference session [Wednesday-Saturday; 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. California time]. Phone: (909) 793-2121.

There are **no phones in the dormitory rooms**; delegates are encouraged to leave their own cell phone # or another companion delegate's cell phone # for emergency family contacting.

The Hawaii District Pre-Conference Briefing will be Held at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 17.



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Leaving Hawaii for Another Adventure

(Following are excerpts from my farewell message at last District Conference on April 24, 2010)

Looking back at my life, not only last six years as DS, but life overall, I realized that I am a risk-taker. This realization was a surprise to me because my self-image has been quite different. I was timid, shy and physically weak person in my childhood. I prefer comfort and security over dangerous adventures. But my life history tells me of the many decisions I have made at the critical junctures, which involved risks. The very decision to be a minister was a risky one. I was so shy that making public speech was a torture. In the first year of my ministry, I still remember the fears I had leading Sunday worship services, and the most difficult moment was when the choir was finishing their anthems. My heart was pounding hard at the thought that next moment I would have to go up to the pulpit. So to be an ordained pastor was one of the major risk taking decisions.

And then other risk taking adventures would follow. To come to the states at the age of 27, leaving behind my beautiful wife whom I had just married, was quite a risk. To come to Hawaii as the senior pastor of Christ UMC, which is the oldest among all Korean churches in America and one of the largest, was a risk, since I was inexperienced and 41 years young. To build a new building at Christ involved enormous risk. To come back to Hawaii as District Superintendent was another risk. Then two years ago, my wife and I traveled through Europe in a camping car visiting unknown and unfamiliar places. After the trip, I realized how reckless I was. Now I am going to start a new ministry Los Angeles.

To take a risk is a dangerous thing, but it is also rewarding. Taking risks opens an opportunity otherwise not available. For me, it offered an opportunity to experience God in a new way. In the dangers and uncertainties in taking risks, I have experienced God's presence in a different level. In the fears and weaknesses of my risky journey, my longing and desire for God's presence got stronger and desperate. My prayers become intense and real, and then I experience inexplicable peace and courage to move on. There is nothing to compare to this experience. It is the best feeling that God is with me. Walking with God has become the greatest blessing. To walk with God has become the motto of my life. John Wesley also testified in his moment of death that the greatest thing in our life is that God is with us.

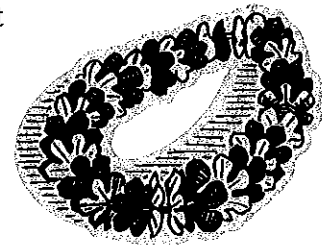
And God gives these blessings to his servants who take the mission and ministry seriously even at risks of personal safety and comfort.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matt 28:20)

After long years, I can say that though God's mission is risky thing to take, it is the surest way to ensure God's presence in our lives. When you hear God's calling for mission and when you obey it, there will follow the blessing of his presence. And then everything will be alright. That is the assurance which gives us courage to move on without fear.

Good bye and mahalo for your support and love. We will never forget Hawaii.

Woong-Min Kim



The Laity by Dick Englar

My Great-Granddaughter Nanea thinks my head is a book, because the answers are in my head. So I asked her "What's in my heart?" and she replied "Jesus is in your heart." She is only seven years old, and I believe her.

Last week I went to the Walk to Emmaus. We had 15 different speakers of testimony of how Jesus came into their lives and what God had done for them. Their testimony was heartwarming. I made many new friends, especially one named Michael who shared the gifts God has given him. He touched my heart and I thank God for his wonderful friendship.

I've always believed that this life here on earth is about people sharing the gifts that God has given them.

The gifts received from God are the tools we use to help bring people to Jesus. We are the eyes, the hands, the ears, the voices, and the love for Jesus. What we do is how others will see us in doing Christ's work. What we say is what they hear.

We need to rethink church. We need to be partners together with those we come in touch with about God's love, about Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in our hearts.

As we begin our New Year (starting July 1st), we need to RE-THINK CHURCH. Does your church have a vision? Is your church visible in your community? Is Jesus in your Heart? My Great Granddaughter thinks so. How about you?

Aloha,
Dick

Did you know that thousands of copies of Upper Room will be given away to soccer fans throughout South Africa?



Bishop's Call to Action Survey

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am copying to you the main part of a letter I just received from Bishop Gregory Palmer, asking me to ask the leaders of my Episcopal Area to take part in a survey about building a vital church for the future: it includes a live web-link to the survey. Please read his invitation and join the survey so that our voices are part of this critical work for the whole of our Church and its mission.

He begins: "United Methodists in small and large churches and across all sectors of our Connection yearn for a UMC that is authentically accountable to the Gospel and passionate and effective in proclaiming, bearing witness, inviting, and serving. We want more people to come to know and grow in their love of and walk with Jesus Christ so that their lives and the whole world may be transformed and please God. We want a church that is distinguished less by its rhetoric and bureaucratic rules than by its faithful and fruitful ministries."

To read more and join the survey, go on-line to "Leadership Team," which is under the "Boards & Agencies" heading tab on our conference website, www.cal-pac.org.

Thanks! Bishop Mary Ann

Bishop Swenson's Annual Conference Reading List

God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action *God's creation is in crisis. Our neglect, selfishness, and pride have fostered poverty and disease, environmental degradation, and the proliferation of weapons and violence. The bishops of The United Methodist Church urgently call all United Methodists and people of goodwill around the world to confront these global threats to God's creation. Use this resource to raise awareness through worship and congregation-wide study, encouraging individuals to get involved and responding to the call that leads to transforming change.*

This book is available at Cokesbury.com, by calling 800-672-1789, and at the Pasadena Cokesbury store or log on to: <http://www.cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=836851>

Other books recommended by the Bishop are:

Becoming a Praying Congregation: Creating a Community of Prayer by Bishop Reuben P. Job

When You Pray by Bishop Reuben P. Job

**AROUND THE CONFERENCE
---AND BEYOND**

Memorial video of the 25 Cal-Pac Clergy and spouses who died the past 12 months is available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvDUbb2VdO>

The Aquila, the conference Newsletter for Youth and Young Adults is posted online at <http://calpacyoungpeopleorg/aguila>

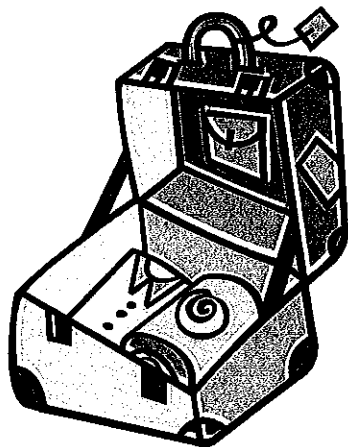
The United Methodist General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) has developed a Web-based resource that addresses the "slow-motion tragedy" of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. "Gulf Coast Resources for Prayer & Action" is available at www.umc-gbcs.org/gulfcoast

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Youth Camp: Youth Alive Hawaii "Engage" July 15-18 @Camp Kokokahi, Kaneohe - Contact Moanalisa Siofele (387-7064 or Russell Langas (778-9373) for more info

Young Adult Camp: "pURpose" July 2-5 @Camp Kokokahi, Kaneohe - Contact Langi Lolohea (450-1709) for more info

Hawaii District "How To" Workshop - Saturday, January 29, 2011 - Harris UMC



BITS N' PIECES

**** Personal ****

With deepest sympathy to...

...family of the late Reverend Tongjin Samuel Lee who passed away on May 9, 2010. Rev. Lee was Pastor Emeritus at Christ UMC and was 94 years old.

He was born in a rural area of Korea in 1915 during the Japanese occupation of the Korean peninsula, the son of one of the first ordained Christian ministers in Korea. He came to America in 1938 and completed his seminary education at the Louisville Presbyterian Seminary in Kentucky.

He served at six different ethnic churches during his ministry: American Indian churches in eastern Washington and eastern Oregon, First Korean Methodist Church in Honolulu (the present Christ UMC), Kilohana UMC, Parker UMC, Aldersgate UMC.

Condolences may be sent to the Lee Family at: 2235 -A Aulii St., Honolulu, HI 96817.

...The Reverend Faaagi Taufetee and family on the passing of his oldest brother's wife, Mrs. Lauagaia Taufetee. She was raised Pastor Faaagi like a "hanai" mother; she was 85 years old.

Please pray for...

...The Rev. Nobuko Miyake-Stoner of Harris UMC. She has been hospitalized and is improving slowly.

...The incoming pastor to Kailua UMC; the Rev. J. T. Greenleaf. He fractured two ribs and strained his shoulder while visiting Hawaii.

...Isaiah James, great-grandson of Rev. Barbara Grace Ripple. He is at the Valley Children's Hospital in Madera, CA.

...continued prayers for Dr. Frank Butterworth, and for Rev. Colleen Chun and Rev. Kana Shimasaki - both are on medical leave.

... a smooth transition for the Reverend Woong-Min and Mrs. Kim as they move to Los Angeles to begin a new ministry. And pray also for the Reverend Tom and Mrs. Becky Choi and their daughters as Pastor Tom begins as the new Superintendent for the Hawaii District.

Hold the following churches and their pastors in your prayers:

6/20 - Kilohana UMC - Pastors Alan Mark & Ane Aholelei

6/27 - Keolumana UMC - Pastor Samuel Domingo

7/4 - Kapolei Korean UM Mission - Pastor Jeong Hoan Lee

7/11 - Kapolei UM Mission - Pastor Rob Lloyd

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2010

Fri., Jun.11: King Kamehameha Day; Dist. Ofc. closed
Tue.-Mon., Jun. 15-21: District Office will be closed during Cal-Pac Annual Conference Session
Wed.-Sat., Jun. 16-19: Cal-Pac Annual Conference

July 2010

Thu.-Sun., Jul. 1-4: **Young Adult Convention, Kokokahi Camp**
Mon., Jul. 5: Fourth of July holiday; Dist. Ofc. closed
Thu.-Fri., Jul. 15-18: **YPC (Young People Convention); Kokokahi Camp**
Sat., Jul. 17; 9:00 a.m.: Div. Of Discipleship meeting; Wahiawa UMC
Sat., Jul. 24; 10:00 a.m.: D.S. Committee meeting; District Office
Mon., Jul. 26: Deadline for Aug.-Sept. Ka Leo Mekokiko
Thu.-Sun., Jul. 29-Aug.1: **Walk To Emmaus for Women**

August 2010

Sat., Aug. 14: **D. S. Welcome Event**
Fri., Aug. 20: Statehood Day; District Office closed
Fri.-Sat., Aug. 20-21: **Training for Christian Education Leaders**
Sat., Aug. 21; 9:00 a.m.: HUMU Board mtg.; Harris

Sat., Aug. 28: DLT meeting; SWCC?
Mon., Aug. 30: Deadline for Sept.-Oct. Ka Leo Mekokiko

September 2010

Mon., Sep. 6: Labor Day; District Office closed
Sat., Sep. 18: District UMW Annual Meeting
Mon., Sep. 27: Deadline for Oct.-Nov. Ka Leo Mekokiko

October 2010

Sun., Oct. 3: *World Communion Sunday*
Fri.-Sun., Oct. 8-10: *Children's Sabbath*
Sun., Oct. 17: *Laity Sunday*
Mon., Oct. 25: Deadline for Nov.-Dec. Ka Leo Mekokiko

November 2010

Mon., Nov. 1: *All Saints Day*
Thu., Nov. 11: Veterans Day; District Office closed
Sun., Nov. 14: *Organ & Tissue Donor Sunday*
Sat., Nov. 20; 9:00 a.m.: HUMU Board mtg.; Harris
Thu.-Fri., Nov. 25-26: Thanksgiving holiday; District Office closed
Sun., Nov. 28: *UM Student Day; 1st Advent Sunday*
Mon., Nov. 29: Deadline for Dec.-Jan. Ka Leo Mekokiko

December 2010

Fri., Dec. 24: Christmas holiday; Dist. Ofc. closed
Sat., Dec. 25: **CHRISTMAS**
Fri., Dec. 31: New Years holiday; Dist. Ofc. closed.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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