



Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church

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May 2017 E-Thymes

Office hours: Mondays: Closed; Tuesdays/Wednesdays: 8am-1pm; Thursdays: 8am-11am; Fridays 8am-3pm

Our Vision: We are a multi-cultural and inclusive church united in the love of Jesus Christ.

Mission Statement: We are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Congregational Goals for 2017:

- * Growing into stewardship with our gifts and strengths
- * Strengthening our outreach ministry in San Gabriel Valley
- * Vitalizing our Sunday worship service to reach out to the un-churched & de-churched



Christ Goes With Us

by *Rev. George Martzen*

The beautiful banners in the sanctuary remind us that we are in the season of Easter, also known as The Great 50 Days. The Easter banners will remain throughout May as we head toward Pentecost (literally the 50th) on June 4. As in the past, we will celebrate the birth of the church with our brothers and sisters in the Church of India at a 10 a.m. worship service.

The Season of Easter is an opportunity to practice the hope of resurrection, to live out the words of the hymn, "Love's redeeming work is done... Christ has opened paradise... Where, O death, is now thy sting?" Christ's death and resurrection show that we no longer need to fear death and all its affiliates – terrorism, revenge, racism, oppression, unfaithfulness, etc. God's self-giving love in Jesus

has broken the cycle of sin and death, of estrangement and violence. That should be good news to tell.

In fact, a common thread running through the resurrection accounts is the exhortation to go and tell. When Mary encountered the risen Lord, she was told to go and tell the other disciples. When Jesus met up with the other disciples he told them to go and tell and make disciples of all nations. We hear Jesus' moving words in the gospel of John, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

The last part of worship, what the UMC Book of Worship calls "The Sending Forth," corresponds to this sending message. It's where we re-enact Jesus act of sending the disciples to go and tell. Our practice of carrying the light out of worship after extinguishing the altar candles is a reminder that the one who sends us out, actually goes before us into the world. The light of Christ goes with us and leads the way.

Usually we also sing a short song at this time, the Hymn of Sending, like "Dona Nobis." For the next few Sundays we will sing the song "Christ Beside Me," by James



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Quinn. It's based on a prayer known as "St. Patrick's Breastplate," or the "Lorica of St Patrick." Found in our hymn supplement, *The Faith We Sing*, it's set to the Gaelic melody, Bunesann, or "Morning Has Broken," which was popularized by Jusuf Islam, better known as Cat Stevens.

Christ beside me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
King of my heart;
Christ within me,
Christ below me,
Christ above me,
never to part.

The *lorica*, literally a shield of breastplate, is type of monastic prayer from the middle ages used for protection. Soldiers would even have these prayers written on the shield and recited in the face of battle or other trial, and recited to build up courage and confidence in divine protection. Such prayers recall the exhortation in Ephesians 6, to "put on the breastplate of righteousness."

As we go forth from worship each Sunday to wage God's peace, let us go with this prayer.

EAST DISTRICT CONFERENCE:
Saturday, May 6, 2017 at the United Methodist Church of Cucamonga, 7690 Archibald Ave., Rancho Cucamonga; 8:30am to Noon. Theme: A Greater Thing. All are welcome for a morning of Worship and Praise, Business and Learning, and Fellowship and

Recognitions. No pre-registration required. Rev. Jan Wiley will be speaking on "Things Your DS Wants You to Know," and the learning time will be based on Bishop Hagiya's Priorities and Values. **If you would like to help represent Sage Granada Park UMC, please let Rev. George know.**

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Novelo family, Violet Tomei, Steve Meza, Lucy Sogioka, Flo Griffen, Barbara Houck, Elvis S. Gershom, Lucy Villegas, Robin Nakahara, Duane Martin, Isabel Reyes, Sada Mayeda, Marilyn McIver, Elizabeth Kells, Sally Bell, Phillip & Nenita Marquez, Betty McIver, Dana Ichikawa, Amy Mori, Toni Tomita, Echavarria Family, Barbara Stolley, Vivian Zamora, Pearl Matsumoto

SPIRITUAL FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday Bible Study @ 1:00pm & @ 7:00pm led by Rev. George Martzen in Yokoi Chapel. All are welcome!



Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.: Pre-school & K-4th grade with Sengdeuane Tom or Ashley Parks and 5th Grade & above are with Pyoung Hwa Lee.



We are now accepting Registration for children 2yrs 9mo and potty-trained to 5year old for the 2017-2018 School Year. Call the school for more information at 626- 284-5006, or visit our web site at <http://gpumnsk.org>

Granada Park United Methodist Nursery School & Kindergarten

May Curriculum Themes are: May Day; Pets; Mother's Day; Farm Life; Zoo Animals.

May School Calendar:

Teacher Appreciation week May 1-5, 2017

4- Teacher Luncheon 11:30am

5- Cinco De Mayo

8-Shakeys 5:00pm-8:00pm 2200 W. Valley Blvd Alhambra Ca, 91803 (626) 289-7851

14- Mother's Day

20-Armed Forces Day

23- Exotic Pets 9:30-11:00am

24- Kinder Graduation 10:00am

25-26- Last Day Morning Program

29- School Closed Memorial Day

30- Day Care Continues

June 1, 2017 Summer School Begins

SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION

School year is coming to an end we are accepting Summer School Registration. Please contact the school office for information about our summer program (626) 284-5006.



YAITO

I was a little kid in 1st or 2nd grade. There were only the four of us in the room in the Nagamine home. Mr. and Mrs. Nagamine were proxy antie and uncle to me because Mom was an orphan. Her youngest sister, Kikumi, also an orphan, was lovingly adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Nagamine.

Mrs. Nagamine was a picture bride crossing the Pacific from Okinawa to Hawaii to marry a stranger whom she knew only by his photograph. On board ship she met this handsome, gentle young man. Putting her life into her hands, she ran off and married this man with whom she had fallen in love.

But everything was different tonight in the Nagamine living room. Mom was tense and a little nervous. There were the whisps of smoke and the sweet perfume of burning incense floating to the ceiling. Tonight Mrs. Nagamine was a Spirit woman conducting an Okinawan healing service. Mom took off my shirt. Mrs. Nagamine placed a quarter inch piece of incense stick on the spine of my back. She would light it. The pain and the scar it left would heal my stuttering. I began stuttering severely when I entered 1st grade. It was getting worse. This was faith healing or religious magic by a Spirit woman from animistic

Okinawan religion called **dozoku-shuukyo**.

Mrs. Nagamine lit the piece of incense on my back. Mom's eyes grew bigger as the speck of flame slowly burned into my skin. When I cried out, she smashed the flame out with her thumb. We were aghast as her involuntary move doused the flame that was supposed to do healing magic by burning my skin and leave a scar on my spine. I don't have trouble today preaching to huge crowds of several hundred people, but I still stutter sometimes severely talking informally to friends, especially speaking in Japanese. In the ancient outdated Japanese we speak in Hawaii, we call this faith-healing magic **Yaito**. In Japan they hold their stomachs and laugh when I say **Yaito**. That is Meiji era Japanese they haven't heard in 90 years. Today they call this **Okyuu**.

Christians don't do **Yaito** or **Okyuu** spirit magic. But we do have the healing river of love flowing from the heart of God through the Cross of Jesus from the eternity of the past to the eternity of the future. We become aware of God living in our hearts, the **Cosmic Christ**. Better than **Yaito**.



COFFEE - TEA FELLOWSHIP gratefully acknowledges the following:

APRIL REFRESHMENTS

Shihoko Tatsugawa, Toshi N. Ito, Bea & Sho Tabata, Roberta & Steve Echavarria, Nancee & Roy Iketani,

Fred Miwa, Elaine & TC Chung, Mariko Garrett, Janet & John Furukawa, Jean McIver, Boy Scout Troop 286.

Additional Acknowledgements: Boy Scout Troop 286 for the vegetables from their church garden; Rev. Harry & Sumio Fujimoto for the basket of loquats from their garden; Jean McIver for the monetary donation; Elaine & TC Chung for the package of food trays; Aphuno Chase-Roy & Rev. Parimal Roy for bags and bags of miracle spinach. A Happy Birthday cake was served on April 9 in celebration of Tak Yoshida's 96th birthday on April 6; Chef Alan Kitsuse & his crew plus the Boy Scout Troop 286 served a wonderful hearty Easter Breakfast. Janice Hurtado provided the Easter Bunny decorations; the Japanese Language School held a Smap Musubi fundraiser on April 30 during Fellowship Time.

April Helpers: Elaine Chung, Helen Ikeda, and Marikoi Garrett come early on Sunday mornings to set up Fellowship Hall and prepare refreshments. Serving and cleaning up were Alan Kitsuse, Fred Miwa, Bea Tabata, Sengdeuane Tom, Jean Taniguchi, and Janet Wong.

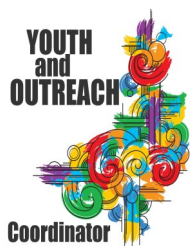
As always, your cooperation and support are so greatly appreciated! Please don't forget to sign up on our Fellowship Refreshment Schedule in the Church Office so our committee can plan accordingly. In love and gratitude, Sets





Join Soraya Shafer and her classmates as they hold a charity concert

to raise funds for hunger. This school-based project, completely organized and carried out by the kids will feature special talents and skills by student performers. Each concert ticket is \$5.00, and this special event will be held on **Sunday, May 7, at 2:00 PM at the Sage Granada Park UMC Fellowship Hall.** (If you can't attend, donations are welcomed.) Hope to see you there!



By Pyoung-Hwa-Lee

I want to share Tawn Bueltmann's article about family prayer time:

PARENTING POINT:

FAMILY PRAYER HUDDLE

How does your family pray? When our kids were young, we prayed together at bedtime. Some families continue this tradition until their kids leave home. Many families have family devotions each day and pray together about each person's concerns.

I love when our family gathers in the kitchen before a meal for a "prayer huddle." We stand in a circle and put our arms around each others' shoulders like a sports team might. We bow our heads and pray "homemade" prayers about any topic. This type of "genuine" prayer can be prayed any time in any place. We might be lounging in the living room and stop to pray for a friend or relative who's going through a hard time.

We pray for one of the kids as they're heading out the door for school. We might pray simply prayers of praise to God for Who He is.

When our children see us turn to God in good times in bad, when they hear us talk to God in an authentic, conversational way... then they learn that God is right here with us, that He cares about us, and that we can turn to Him in all situations.

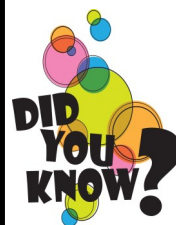
Try it! Gather your family in a big group hug and thank God for each person. Talk to our dear Father about whatever concerns you. Be a family who prays together!

PS— Thursday, May 4, is the National Day of Prayer.

Why not make it a family tradition to pray together on this special day?



Mark Your Calendars! Special Pentecost Sunday Celebration on Sunday, June 4 at 10:00 AM! Join Sage Granada Park and the Church of India for a combined worship service with lunch to follow in the Fellowship Hall.



Did you know there is an additional way of supporting Sage Granada Park

United Methodist Church financially just by making on-line purchases of things you would normally buy? **Check out UMCmarket.org.** It's kind of like

purchasing something from Amazon Smile. There are thousands of vendors, some offering free shipping, discount pricing, or special incentives,



who will donate a percentage of your purchase back to our church. All you need to do is go to the website, sign up, choose Sage Granada Park as your designated church, and create your own UMC market secure profile.



Some of the vendors included are Ace and True Value Hardware stores; Payless Shoes; Sam's Club; LLBean; Barnes & Noble; Rite Aid and Walgreens; Old Navy; GAP; Bass Pro Shops; Target; Godiva, Russell Stover, Ghirardelli, and See's Chocolate companies; Neiman Marcus; Staples; Youngers; Macy's; Starbucks; Best Buy; Jo-ann Fabrics...and the list goes on. Why not give it a try? It's an easy way to give an additional donation to SGPUMC!

Alhambra Performing Arts Center Presents

Russian Jazz Pianist Sabine Pothier

APAC, under the direction of Chef/
Artistic Director Bill Yee presents
internationally acclaimed pianist
Sabine Pothier on Sunday, May 14,
2017, at 7:00 pm at Sage Granada
Park UMC. Admission is Free—free
-will offering accepted during
intermission. Refreshments by
Patisserie Artist Catherine Shaffer.

Widely respected
as an award-
winning classical
pianist in the
United States and
Europe, Sabine



(Yelena Koshelevskaya) is one of
the most talented musicians in the
world. Child prodigy (she learned
Rachmaninoff's 3rd concerto in 3
months!), she is the winner of
classical competitions. Fans and
critics alike are welcoming a new
and powerful voice in the world of
Jazz competitions. She immersed
herself into Jazz not too long ago,
teaching herself from recordings
and transcribing them and
performing with other musicians.
She has worked with many of the
Jazz greats. Her brand-new, almost
all-original album "Keys to the City
of Lost Angel's" was released in
2014 and available on
www.cdbaby.com. She leads her
own group, Sabine Trio, performing
all over SoCal.

Contact: Bill Yee (626) 230-5435 or
e-mail bizwind@yahoo.com

Mother's Day

B	G	S	T	Y	A	Y	U	F	Q	H	L	S	Q	D
U	F	N	R	D	L	O	O	R	I	M	Z	P	D	X
F	F	W	I	I	W	R	V	B	E	N	K	E	Z	O
L	V	L	M	R	E	J	U	Z	U	P	X	C	Y	M
L	R	A	O	V	A	V	I	P	Q	I	R	I	R	H
P	F	F	E	W	B	C	H	J	I	M	B	A	O	A
P	E	R	Y	T	E	X	W	T	N	G	O	L	Z	C
S	M	Z	S	S	G	R	S	D	U	H	H	M	A	F
R	E	H	T	O	M	A	S	K	F	E	D	L	M	U
Q	K	M	L	U	F	A	M	A	M	A	W	O	Y	Y
Z	O	O	V	K	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	A	Y
B	V	R	A	L	G	U	W	F	K	T	L	Y	M	C
E	M	E	Q	F	K	I	S	S	E	S	F	V	C	Z
V	R	O	K	F	J	T	R	T	D	O	H	Z	Q	X
B	A	X	M	U	V	C	B	C	T	B	I	Y	G	N

BREAKFAST
FAMILY
HEART
MAMA
MOMMY
UNIQUE

CARING
FLOWERS
KISSES
MAY
MOTHER

CHILDREN
FOREVER
LOVE
MOM
SPECIAL



A Mother's Love

A little boy came up to his mother in the
kitchen one evening while she was fixing
supper, and handed her a piece of paper
that he had been writing on. After his
Mom dried her hands on an apron, she
read it, and this is what it said:

For cutting the grass: \$5.00
For cleaning up my room this week:
\$1.00
For going to the store for you: \$.50
Baby-sitting my kid brother while you
went shopping: \$.25
Taking out the garbage: \$1.00
For getting a good report card: \$5.00
For cleaning up and raking the yard:
\$2.00
Total owed: \$14.75

Well, his mother looked at him standing
there, and the boy could see the
memories flashing through her mind.
She picked up the pen, turned over the

paper he'd written on, and this is what
she wrote:








For the nine months I carried you while
you were growing inside me: No Charge
For all the nights that I've sat up with
you, doctored and prayed for you: No
Charge
For all the trying times, and all the tears
that you've caused through the years:
No Charge
For all the nights that were filled with
dread, and for the worries I knew were
ahead: No Charge
For the toys, food, clothes, and even
wiping your nose: No Charge
Son, when you add it up, the cost of my
love is: No Charge.

When the boy finished reading what his
mother had written, there were big
tears in his eyes, and he looked straight
at his mother and said, "Mom, I sure do
love you." And then he took the pen and
in great big letters he wrote: "PAID IN
FULL"

PALM AND EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 	2	3 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	4 7:45 pm Chinese Choir ★NATIONAL★ DAY of PRAYER	5  6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Choir Practice 7:30pm Boy Scouts	6 8:30 Japanese School
7 9:30am Worship 11:15am Church Council Meeting 2:00pm Hunger Relief Concert	8 1:00pm Ukelele	9 7:00pm Trustees Mtg.	10 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	11 7:45 pm Chinese Choir 6:30pm SGP Choir Practice	12 3-7pm Japanese School Open House 2:45pm HYFC 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	13 8:30 Japanese School Noon COI
14 9:30am Worship  Happy Mother's Day!	15 1:00pm Ukelele	16 10:00am CPAT 7:00pm PAC Meeting	17 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	18 7:45 pm Chinese Choir 6:30pm SGP Choir Practice	19 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	20 8:30 Japanese School 
21 9:30am Worship Japanese School Bake Sale 	22 1:00pm Ukelele	23	24 9:00am Preschool Graduation 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	25 7:45 pm Chinese Choir 6:30pm SGP Choir Practice	26 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	27 8:30 Japanese School
29 9:30am Worship 11:45am Governance Study Group	29  MEMORIAL DAY	30	31 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study		 Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12	