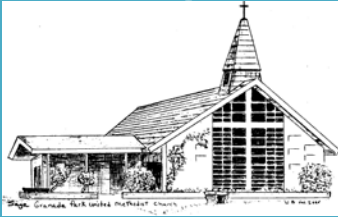


Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church



1850 West Hellman Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803

Office (626) 284-3229; FAX (626) 570-4144

Website <http://www.sgpumc.org>

Email: sagegranadapark@gmail.com

May 2015 E-Thymes

Office hours: Mondays: Closed. Tuesdays-Wednesdays: 9am-2pm Thursdays-Fridays: 8:30am-1:30pm

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 2015:

- * 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

Rev. Sunyoung Park, Pastor
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Church School Superintendent
Sally Bell: sallycbell@gmail.com

Wedding Director
Leslie Hutchins: macychick@aol.com

GOD'S ABUNDANT GRACE



Thank you for your prayers and blessings for my 2 week vacation to visit my family in Korea. Thanks to your prayers, I came back safely to the Alhambra parsonage on Tuesday evening. I would like to thank church staff to take care of many things in my absence and dedicated members for their faithful ministry.

While I was visiting my family and friends in Korea, I could see many changes, some were drastic and others were gradual. While my dad is still healthy and strong, I noticed my mom has become weaker than 3 years ago when they visited me here in California. My parents- in-

law welcomed me with their hospitality and my two nieces and nephews have grown so much. City of Seoul has dramatically changed in many ways – there are a great number of 50 plus-story-apartments and there are express subway lines at almost every corner of the city. In spite of these changes, the love of family and friendship of friends still remain the same. Although I was physically away from them for many years, our familial bond and friendship has grown deeper. It was God's perfect and abundant grace to me, which I cannot comprehend.

Thank you so much for granting me a vacation to spend priceless time with my loved ones. I may find myself jet lagged for a while but definitely came back more energized and grateful for my life and ministry here with all of you at Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church. Because of God, who is the Source of Love, we will journey toward deeper love and friendship that will enrich our lives and strengthen our faith. I am looking forward to seeing all of you this coming Sunday on May 3rd!

In Gratitude and Love,

Rev. Sunyoung Park



Kay Tokeshi, Jamille Regalado, Dorothy Jennings, Bonnie Novelo, Violet Tomei, Steve Meza, Beans & Lucy Sogioka, Yone Tokeshi, Michelle Jimenez, Edward Vargas, Albert & Connie Takahashi, brother & sister-in-law, Lauri Parks, niece of Flo Griffen, Barbara Houck, Elvis S. Gershom, Lucy Villegas; Marilyn McIver, Rayne McLoughlin, Robin Nakahara for healing of health problems, Mr. Ed, Duane Martin, Douglas Williams, Isabel Reyes and Jean Taniguchi.

OBITUARIES:

The following was published in Statesman Journal on March 21, 2015:

Rev. Wes Yamaka was the Pastor at Sage United Methodist Church for approximately 10 years. The Church was located in Monterey Park during this time.

Wesley Yamaka (1928-2015)

Rev. Wesley N. Yamaka

November 16, 1928-March 12, 2015.

Wesley Yamaka, Methodist minister, graphic artist, and social justice advocate, died on Thursday, March 12, 2015 from a long-term illness.

Wes, the younger of five brothers, was born on November 16, 1928 to Yuzuru and Teru Yamaka in Seattle, WA. He graduated from Moapa Valley High School in Overton, Nevada and loved to

recount the story about catching the winning touchdown in the state championship football game. He received degrees from Chapman College, Pacific School of Religion and Harvard Divinity School.

Wes met his wife-to-be, Akiko Rose Sase, while a student at Chapman College in Los Angeles. They were wed in August of 1953.

Wes was an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, serving churches in Livingston, CA, Seattle, WA, San Jose, CA, Monterey Park, CA and Portland, OR. In addition, Wes and his family lived in Columbia, Maryland for 20 years, where he worked with the Columbia Cooperative Ministry (Columbia, MD) and Board of Church and Society in Washington, D.C. To many, Wes is best known as a visionary graphic artist, whose signature silk screen prints incorporated words and images to create powerful messages of social justice and peace. His artwork is still treasured by many. His lifelong passion for peace and social justice issues was formed, in no small part, by his experience living in the Japanese American internment camps as a teenager during World War II.

Wes was a caring and compassionate person, and instantly a friend to anyone he met. He was a lover of books, Japanese food, classical music, golf and watching Oregon Duck sports. Most of all, Wes cherished the relationships he formed with friends from coast to coast, and the time he spent with family – especially his adored grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Rose; sons, Matt (Jo) and Dave (Julie); grandchildren, Sara (Xavi), Stephanie (Michael) and

Kevin; and two great-grandchildren, Ona and Nora.

There will be celebration of life for Wes at Jason Lee United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 11th at 2pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Jason Lee Community Food Bank, 820 Jefferson St. NE, Salem, OR 97301.

On May 30 (11am), a celebration of life will be held in Los Angeles at the Centenary United Methodist Church.

Funeral Home
Barrick Funeral Home
205 Church St. SE
Salem, OR 97301
(503)363-9139

It is with deep regret and sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Elaine Del Monico in the evening of Sunday, April 19, 2015. A viewing was held on Sunday, April 26th from 2pm-4pm, Sunday April 26 @ Pierce Brothers Funeral Home, 1136 E. Las Tunas, San Gabriel, CA 91176; Tel # (626)287.0595.

The *Memorial Service* will be held on **Saturday, May 23rd at 11am** at: Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church
1850 W. Hellman Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91803

A reception will follow the Memorial Service at:
Luminarias
3500 Ramona Boulevard,
Monterey Park, CA 91754,
(323) 268-4177

Our deepest condolences, hearts and prayers go out to the Del Monico family.

What's Coming Up!

Sunday, May 3, 2015

- Communion Sunday.
- Lifetouch Photo
Appointments continue -- family portraits are taken for the SGPUMC Pictorial Directory.

Saturday, May 9, 2015

- Japanese Language School Open House.

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

- Board of Trustees meeting @ 7pm.

Sunday, May 17, 2015

- Japanese Language School Bake Sale.
- Alhambra Performing Arts presents:
Mark Carter's "Beatlemania In Alhambra" @ 7pm.
Admission: Free but donations are accepted & appreciated.

Monday, May 18, 2015

- GPUMNS Shakey's Fundraiser from 5-8pm.
2234 W. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, CA 91803
Tel #: (626) 289-7851

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

- Preschool Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting @ 7pm.

Saturday, May 23, 2015

- Memorial Service: Elaine Del Monico. Time: 11am.
Place: Sage Granada Park UMC, 1850 W. Hellman Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803.
Reception following memorial service @ Luminaria's, 3500 Ramona Blvd., Monterey Park, CA 91754.
Tel #: 323.268-4177.

Sunday, May 24, 2015

- Combined Service with Church of India @ 10:30am.

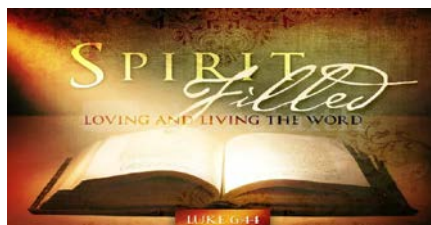
Saturday, May 30, 2015

- Memorial Service/Celebration of Life: Rev. Wes Yamaka.
Time: 11am.
Place: Centenary United Methodist Church,
300 S Central Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90013
(213) 617-9097

Sunday, May 31, 2015

- Church Council meeting @ 11am.
- All Church Camp Fundraiser: Taco plate.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:

The **Wednesday Bible Study** group meets at **1:00 PM** in the Board Room.

THURSDAY SMALL GROUP:

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

Thursday Small Group is where members can share their prayer concerns and brief reflections on the scripture lesson in an intimate setting.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH &

YOUTH GROUP

Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.: Pre-school & K-4th grade with Sally Bell and 5th Grade & above will be in the Yokoi Chapel with Pastor Jesse Chang.

Coffee-Tea Fellowship



Coffee-Tea Fellowship Committee gratefully acknowledges the following for:

APRIL REFRESHMENTS:

Ets & Dave Nakamura, Bea & Sho Tabata, Elaine Chung, Sada Mayeda, Tato Takahama, Janet & John Furukawa, Vivian Zamora, Fred Miwa, Pearl & Ken Matsumoto, Stuart Jacobson, Patricia & Henry Soong.

THANK YOU:

- Yoshie & Ken Tomei for monetary donation.
- Vivian Zamora for monetary donation.
- Chef Ruel, Alan & Crew for the wonderful Easter Breakfast and for the surplus supplies: case of coffee cups, box of French Vanilla creamers, pastry treats, etc.

Helping with set up, serving, & clean up for the month of April were: Lorna Park, Alan Kitsuse, Bea & Sho Tabata, Janet Furukawa, Pearl & Ken Matsumoto.

A special thank you to:

Robert Austin & Ken Matsumoto for cleaning the tables & floor in Fellowship Hall. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Welcome back to Elaine Chung returning in April from almost a month of vacation in New Zealand and Australia on a wonderful cruise. Elaine & Ho Paul come early every Sunday morning to set up our Fellowship Hall for our special time together after worship service.

Please sign up on our refreshments schedule in the church office so our committee can plan for refreshments every Sunday! Your support & cooperation greatly appreciated!

People For People \$1.00 donation can will be on the Fellowship Table on Sunday, May 3.

In Love & Gratitude,

Sets for Fellowship Committee with Elaine Chung & Ho Paul Kim



Now Accepting Registration for Fall 2015-2016 & Summer School 2015

June 1- Summer Fun Begins for Kindergarten, Pre-School & Day Care Children



"I know, I know, I know..."

GPUMC Nursery

School Update

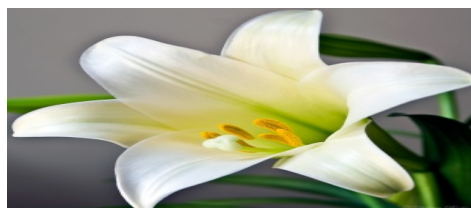
-- by *Theresa Laib*, Director



May themes are: May Day; Pets; Mother's Day; Farm Life; Pond Life; Zoo Animals.

May

- 5- *Cinco de Mayo*
- 10- *Mother's Day*
- 13- *Exotic Pets 9:30 am*
- 16- *Armed Forces Day*
- 18- *Shakey's at 5:00-8:00PM*
- 25- *Memorial Day School Closed*
- 27- *Kindergarten Graduation 10:00 am*
- 28- *Last Day of school for the two (2) day am program (Day Care Continues)*
- 29- *Last Day of school for the three (3) day am, five (5) day am and Kindergarten*



EASTER LILY PLANT 2015

Thank you volunteers...

Kenji Kinoshita, John Furukawa, Ken Matsumoto, Janice and Michael Hurtado, Yoshie Tomei, Rev. Sunny and Ho Paul Kim.

A **very special thanks** goes out to *Janet Furukawa* who worked hard to organize and arrange for the ordering and delivering of the Easter Lily plants.

Getting to Know SGPUMC's Newest Members --

Roger & Leslie Staal

Roger and Leslie Staal are both native So. Californians. They lived in Tennessee for 10 years (from 2004 to 2014) before returning to Southern California. Roger is retired while Leslie works in the insurance industry. They met in Las Vegas and were married in the church Leslie grew up in -- Trinity United Methodist in Pomona. Leslie enjoys a good run (you may see her running miles around the neighborhood) and Roger, an avid chess player, rides a motorcycle. They have four dogs that they love!

Brett Staal

Brett was born in California but he moved a lot growing up. He lived in Houston, TX, Nashville, TN and New York, NY, before returning to California. Brett attended Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN where he played basketball something he really loves to do.

Leslie Garcia (Staal)

Yenny was born in Rio San Juan, Dominican Republic. She has two younger siblings -- a brother and sister. She moved to NY in 2009 to pursue a modeling career which she loves. Yenny also loves hiking, riding bikes and motorcycles. She especially loves going to the beach.

GOING BEYOND OURSELVES

■ by Pastor Jesse Chang



Recently I've been attending worship services where I am not having to lead anything and I can just absorb and worship without worrying about logistics, etc. It's been refreshing to hear new people speak, new songs, and new ways of doing things that can help me reconnect with God.

I attended a service recently at my alma mater Fuller Seminary that also reminded me that corporate worship not only reminds us that we are not alone, but that it's not all about us either. When we gather for corporate worship we are in a small way saying that my schedule isn't the most important thing. When we hear people share their burdens and concerns during corporate prayer, we can put our frustrations and annoyances in context. When we reach out to newcomers, we understand that the church is more than just a social club.

All this to say that it's not that church shouldn't be sensitive to the needs of those who gather on Sundays, especially when they are hurting and grieving. It's just that we can not forget that Christ also calls us to participate in what he is doing in the world, which also prays, heals, and considers others needs: "do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interest of others" (Philippians 2:3).

ON COPING WITH BAD EVENTS

by
Rev. Dickson Yagi



Rev. Dickson Yagi

On Coping (A):

1. God caused it.
2. The devil caused it.
3. "It is what it is."

God is somehow in control, but bad things happen anyway.

Make the best of this bad situation and get over it.

Maybe something better will happen tomorrow that is worth thinking about.

In Japanese this slogan is: SONO MAMA JA , my mother's favorite slogan.

On Coping (B):

1. "They married and lived happily ever after."
This is unlikely as marriage is the most strenuous relationship with children being born, joint property, difficult inlaws, competition at the workplace, spouse snoring, etc.

2. "They retired and lived happily ever after."
This is more believable—lifetime savings become available, children are out of school and earning money instead of spending your money, finished competing for promotion at the workplace.

3. "Life is one damn thing after another."

My friend's wife left him, and on a pleasure trip to San Francisco his heart valve broke down. He was unconscious on the sidewalk and the ambulance took him to a doctor who was a stranger. This slogan is what he said on returning to Pilgrim Place.

4. John Washington, a Pilgrim Place retired prison chaplain: "It is exactly when life is one damned thing after another that we need to learn peace and joy."

Alhambra Performing Arts Center presents:

MARK CARTER'S BEATLEMANIA

ALHAMBRA – APAC (Alhambra Performing Arts Center) presents "Beatlemania in Alhambra" on SUNDAY May 17th at 7pm at Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church. This free program will feature recording artist/guitarist/singer/songwriter Mark Carter who will be performing many Beatle favorites from their hits in the 60s. Audience participation is welcomed and 60's style attire is encouraged.

Mark Carter has been working as a musician and entertainer in Southern California since 1973, performing in restaurants, hotels and other

concert venues. He has performed in many situations, from intimate solo guitar settings to bands that play blues, rock, country and pop as well as singing and playing in big bands at Disneyland and on cruise ships.

As a guitarist Mark has played with some of the biggest names in music including Al Jarreau, Dave Koz, David Foster, Roger Williams, Glen Campbell, Englebert Humperdink, Lee Greenwood, and features many times with the Crystal Cathedral Orchestra.

“Smooth As Silk” is his latest CD featuring contemporary jazz greats Greg Adams, Jeff Kashiwa and Tim Redfield. Mark’s music has received airplay on over 50 radio stations across America including KSBR in Mission Viejo, KJJZ in Palm Springs, XMRadio and The Weather Channel. Jazz Internet radio stations play his music around the world daily.

Mark has also enjoyed a career in education. He is currently on staff as a guitar instructor at Singer Music in La Puente, CA.

APAC is a member of the Consortium of Southern California Chamber Music Presenters and a proud member of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce since 2006.

Performance Date: Sunday, May 17, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Admission: Free (Donations gratefully appreciated & accepted)

Location: Sage Granada Park
United Methodist Church,
1850 W. Hellman Ave.,
Alhambra, CA 91803

Contact: *Bill Yee*, artistic director

Tel #: (626) 230.5435

E-mail: bizwind@yahoo.com

Website: www.cvpamistry.com