

Days of Grace

"Grace was in all her steps, Heav'n in her Eye, In every gesture dignity and love." -John Milton.

Spring Fling Coming April 13-14, 2011



Rev. David Felten
The Fountains United Methodist Church
Fountain Hills, AZ

The Rev. David Felten will be our Spring Fling speaker at our 2011 gathering. Rev. Felten is best known for developing, along with Jeff Procter-Murphy, the "Living The Questions" series.

The Spring Fling Committee has invited Rev. Felten to discuss and foster conversation surrounding the future direction of the church and to bring the good news of the growing and vibrant congregation he pastors in Arizona.

Of course, the usual Spring Fling offerings of fellowship, music and worship will fill our retreat. Mark your calendars and watch for registration materials in your mailbox in mid to late January!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am impressed with how blessed we are in this Annual Conference to have a vital Retired Clergy Association. I was involved for two years from 2001 to 2003 soon after I retired and so I can see firsthand how much we have grown in the past seven years. In 2006 President Dottie Vieira wrote a short history title "Memories of Presidents" and it began with Roy Dunn in 1992-94 and marks our transition into an organization with significant activities and mutual support for our members. Each year has been marked by its own accomplishments and challenges. These continue at a quickened pace. It is a time for even more vigilance and vision along with care and community. I pledge myself to the tasks before us.

One of the marks of this year of transition will be the retirement of Grady

Knowles as Executive Secretary of the Board of Pensions. He has been a gifted and steady supporter. He has our prayers and best wishes. We are fortunate that Paul Extrum-Fernandez will take his place because he is both talented and knowledgeable concerning our Annual Conference. I am grateful for the good work of Nancy Daley who is the RCA Executive Officer. Thank you Nancy for this Newsletter!

Stella and I have been inspired to take part in the New Orleans RCA VIM service project in November. I am engaging our Board in a Discussion of what new directions and activities might be considered. In the meantime I encourage you to contribute to the special Bob Cary Scholarship. He was one of my mentors.

God Be With Us,

~Chuck Cordes

Are You One of Cary's Kids?

Are you one of the hundreds of young people who were influenced by Bob Cary when you were a teenager or young adult?

Bob Cary, Annual Conference Youth and Student Director from 1949-1967, passed away on June 8, 2010, at the age of 96. He touched countless young people throughout his career. Many of the ministers in our conference were called to the ministry because of Bob. George Carter wrote on the Conference Blog: "Bob Cary was a mentor during my four college years, a role-model for the next 50+, and a stalwart example of living the life of a peacemaker. How could we be who we are had he not been part of our lives?!!"

In tribute to this much-beloved leader, RCA has established a special Bob Cary Memorial Scholarship Fund. We plan to give a scholarship this year to a seminary student in Bob's name, with the highest priority being given to someone called to youth leadership. We hope that there will be enough donations to this special fund that we can continue giving these scholarships in the future as well as now. If you would like to support this special fund, please send a check, made out to RCA, to Dick Ernst, Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

GREETINGS and salutations! I hope this issue of Days of Grace finds your days filled with grace indeed.

I hope everyone has enjoyed our mild summer. Although, as I type this, summer is here with a vengeance. The ivy out back has new baby leaves along with the leaves that are turning for fall. My lemon tree is blossoming. My lavender has pretty purple flowers. Even the plants are confused with our weather!

Since Annual Conference I spent a week in Steamboat Springs, Colorado with some girlfriends. It was someplace new for me! Clearly a town that comes alive during ski season, but it was beautiful and did I mention someplace new for me? I love going somewhere I haven't been and seeing new sights!

In contradiction to that theory, Norm and I surprised the girls with a trip to Disneyland over Labor Day weekend. It was 22 years earlier that we took our wedding party to Disneyland to kick off our wedding weekend. So spending our anniversary with our two most favorite people in the world seemed appropriate. Two great days hanging out with the teenage daughters.... We don't know how many more opportunities we will have to do that, so we are taking every advantage we can to do so.

As we look towards fall, Kaitlyn is the Assistant Stage Manager in Cosumnes River College's production of MacBeth. Lady MacBeth will be played by Victoria Mature, daughter of Victor Mature! Imagine my surprise when Kaitlyn dropped that piece of trivia!

Emma has started her sophomore year with renewed commitment towards her school work and becoming involved in activities. She is serving as secretary for the EGUMC Youth Group and is now going with me to Church Council meetings.

As you can see from my photo, I am a Sacramento Kings fan, bleeding purple and black! I had the opportunity to meet the great Bill Walton this summer. I really am not short, it's just that he is so very tall! Oh my goodness! In addition to meeting Mr. Walton, I was



asked to film an internet-only commercial for the Kings along with one of their current players, Donte Greene. If you wish to see it, it is on YouTube (www.youtube.com) and just search for "Kings Greene Daley" and it will come up. My 30 seconds of fame!

I'd like you to take a moment and put Spring Fling on your calendar and make plans to attend (April 13-14, 2011). David Felton from The Fountains UMC in Arizona and Co-Creator of "Living the Questions" will be speaking on the future of the church. It should be a great program and I would love to see you!

Peace,

Nancy

RETIRED CLERGY SCHOLARSHIP FUND PROGRAM

Yes, Your Gifts Do Make a Difference!

“I am very thankful to the RCA for giving me the opportunity to be able to learn more about the ministry that I am called to do,” writes Heather Wells. Heather is one of two seminary students to receive a scholarship from RCA this past June. Heather goes on to say, “The scholarship has helped me in two vital areas, first by making sure that I have my books in a timely manner instead of having to wait. The other area is that I have to do my immersion class this year, and the scholarship paid for that.” Heather’s immersion class will have her working in San Francisco with the homeless, people in poverty, those with HIV/AIDS, and those with drug problems. She sees her future ministry as being one who will help the least, the last, and the lost. Our other recipient is Jose Ramos, originally from Peru, who is hoping to start a Hispanic ministry.

This year, our RCA Scholarship Fund was able to offer the largest scholarships ever, thanks in part to generous donations from our RCA members. You responded when we asked you to consider

giving to the fund, and thus, we were able to offer two scholarships of \$2500.00 each. The other way in which we receive funds is that whenever a minister or clergy spouse dies, we add \$100 to the scholarship fund. This is a fitting tribute to our lost colleagues and serves as a living memorial.

If you would like to give a donation to the Memorial Scholarship Fund, please send a check, made out to RCA, to Dick Ernst. If you like, you may designate that it be in memory of or in honor of a special person. With your help, we will be able to help two students next year as well.

Donations, with check made out to: RCA, may be sent to:

Dick Ernst
7930 Crystal Springs Way
Loomis, CA 95650

Please note on the memo line:
RCA Scholarship Fund.

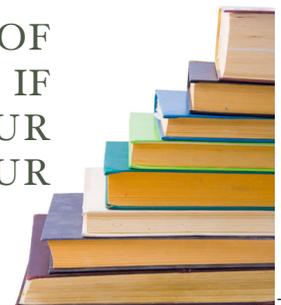
As an added thought: we are happy to receive donations of any kind! They do not have to be in honor of or in memory of anyone. All gifts are gratefully received.

Linda Butler

RCA Scholarship Program Chair

“ALL OF YOUR SCHOLARSHIP, ALL YOUR STUDY OF SHAKESPEARE AND WORDSWORTH WOULD BE VAIN IF AT THE SAME TIME YOU DID NOT BUILD YOUR CHARACTER AND ATTAIN MASTERY OVER YOUR THOUGHTS AND YOUR ACTIONS”

- MAHATMA GANDHI



SHASTA COAST

A thanks to Paula Blackshear from Eureka UMC for keeping us informed of what's new with our Eureka retired folks!

Our retired pastors are traveling:

Bud and Kathleen Tillinghast are in England living near their daughter Mary. Mary and Charles are parents to the Tillinghast grandson Benjamin. They gets lots of Grandparent time as well as visits with Kathleen's family and they have become active in the community (what a surprise!). They recently welcomed a granddaughter Zoe who was born to daughter Marjorie and Justin in Pittsburgh. Kathleen got to spend some time with Zoe and family last month. The Tillinghasts are expected to return to the USA at the end of September.

Gerhard and Elisabeth Drumm keep active in the local church mission work. Their son Paul and his wife Fabiola are planning to serve as missionaries in South Asia beginning in 2011. The Drumms are visiting Elisabeth's homeland and her family in Austria for the month of LSeptember.

Carrol & JoAnn Newquist recently returned from a trip south to deliver furniture that Carrol has built for the homes of their daughters. The Newquists celebrated 50 years of marriage in June and will be celebrating with an October trip to Hawaii with their family."

Mary McMath has moved to Paso Robles, to be nearer her daughter Ruth. Mary lives in a lovely facility called Ada's Vineyard - which is, in fact,

Bud Tillinghast - Correspondent

built amid a vineyard! She is celebrating her 95th birthday on September 7th."

Bev and Ernie Holloway here. Ernie doing woodworking and taking care of things around the homestead. Bev is concentrating on getting ready for knee surgery. Not making any news.

Ellen and Dick McKinsey began the summer with another cruise to Alaska. "We just couldn't see it all the first cruise," Ellen said, "so we took off again. We have had almost solid company all summer...so much so...the neighbors have dubbed us as 'The McKinsey Motel'. But we wouldn't give up one minute of it. We had great joy and fun with family and old friends and grandchildren filling our home with their laughter and love."

This summer, Ellen and Dick, celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. They were married in 1948 by Stanley Reed at the Soledad United Methodist Church.

Stanley did a "vow renewal" for them on their 50th anniversary...I guess that's why they're still married.

They had 4 children, 9 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and this year 3 great great grandchildren were born. This is their personal contribution to the planet's population explosion! Two of those great great grandchildren live in Crescent City. "It keeps us feeling young with new babies around," Dick said."



DELTA IS-BEENS NEWS

Sue Angove, Correspondent

JOHN and LOIS ALBRIGHT hosted the group for our annual homemade Ice Cream Social in July. We enjoyed a beautiful evening weather-wise and otherwise. They offered each one some homegrown peaches that were absolutely delicious.

JERRY and SUE ANGOVE enjoyed a week at South Lake Tahoe celebrating their wedding anniversary. Since early March Jerry has been a terrific caregiver for Sue recovering from two fractured femur surgeries.

LINDA BUTLER has enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren during the summer. She looks forward to her trip to Turkey Sept 16 – Oct 9 with the Fados.

NORM and ARDITH CALLOWAY celebrated their April second 60th wedding anniversary on a two week river cruise in Russia during June. They visited Moscow and St. Petersburg for 4 days and spent 5 days down river on connecting canals and rivers. A granddaughter's university graduation took them to Delaware in May. The two of them attended a grandson's high school graduation during June in Sacramento.

DON and JEAN FADO keep actively busy enjoying their family and friends while immersing themselves in a variety of worthwhile projects. They will lead a group of 22 people from September 16th – October 9th through fascinating sites of Turkey.

LARRY and LYNN GEORGE celebrated her birthday enjoying a Celtic Women's concert in Saratoga. The second week in September Larry accompanied some relatives and friends to the Oregon Cycle Bicycle race. Riding 80-90 miles/day, they rode through beautiful countryside and small towns.

LARRY and DOREEN HINSHAW enjoyed their nephew's European wedding in May along with ten other American family members. They also took some time to travel in Europe. They returned in June to attend Desert Southwest's Annual Conference, the conference in which Larry served his pastoral appointments before retirement. For two months, they enjoyed some R & R at their 5000 foot cabin in Payson, Arizona. They will celebrate their 5th wedding anniversary in Bodega Bay before leaving for the East Coast. The two of them plan to enjoy viewing the Fall colors of

New England, traveling by car from New York to upper New England.

DICK and ARLENE HUSER are happy to have Dick's book, MY ANXIETY IS BETTER THAN YOUR ANXIETY published. Arlene has gathered several church members and client friends to be part of a Ya Ya Sisterhood. They meet monthly. Their most recent project has been to make pine needle baskets. Dick says they are beautiful, ladies and baskets!

ED and EVA HERSCHBACH-MARTIN left February 26th in their fifth wheel. They headed South and East across the continental United States. They visited long time friends in Texas and worshipped in many United Methodist churches along the way to Key West, Florida. After becoming acquainted with many alligators in the Everglades, they headed North along the East coast acquiring sunburns while visiting the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Additional stops allowed them to enjoy Washington, D.C., Mammoth Caves in Kentucky, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, a cog railway train ride at Pikes Peak, Colorado, and a visit with Eva's sister in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Would you believe, they

even made it home in time to attend Annual Conference in Sacramento?

BOB and DORRIE MOON continue living at Eskaton Village in Carmichael. While they live in separate facilities there due to health issues ,they enjoy daily time together playing cards and hosting visitors. They would be happy to see YOU!

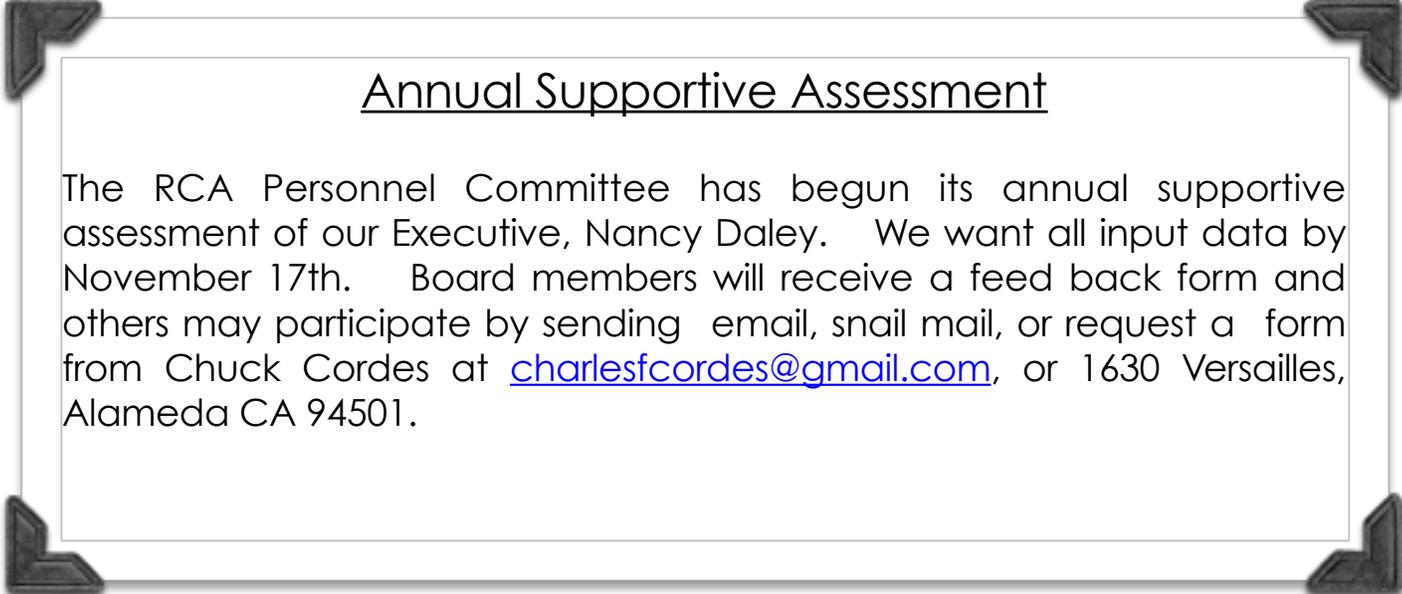
VERNICE OTTO had a visit from her granddaughter, Jenny who lives in Dallas, Texas. It turned out to be a mini family reunion when Jenny was able to contact all of her California cousins,

many of whom she had not seen in nearly twelve years. What Fun!

FRANKLIN “Scotty” and ALTA SCOTT count their blessings as they hold down the fort and enjoy living their days in Lincoln.

CARL THOMAS says that he very much enjoyed the opportunity to handle the pastoral and preaching duties at First UMC, Sacramento during the summer months while the appointed pastor their enjoyed a Sabbatical leave.

SARGE WRIGHT has celebrated his NINETIETH (90th) birthday with a great celebration at St Marks UMC, Sacramento. He serves on the staff there and has come along splendidly with his cardiac rehab.



Annual Supportive Assessment

The RCA Personnel Committee has begun its annual supportive assessment of our Executive, Nancy Daley. We want all input data by November 17th. Board members will receive a feed back form and others may participate by sending email, snail mail, or request a form from Chuck Cordes at charlescordes@gmail.com, or 1630 Versailles, Alameda CA 94501.

Janice and John Emerson traveled to Germany to participate in the wedding of their nephew, Martin Manegold and Nadine Kirschner. Janice and her sisters Doreen Hinshaw, Linda Munsil, and Diane Golling, sang at the wedding while John brought a prayer, speaking in both German and English. John and Janice celebrated their 55th anniversary with a dinner that included daughter Jody Call, grandson, Daniel Call, and Rolfe and Barbara Johnson, who had been best man and guest book attendant (friends from school days); and later the anniversary couple vacationed at Yosemite where they had spent their honeymoon. John and Dr. Michael Cleveland, former chair of the University of Nevada Music Dept., collaborated for a second time to create another choral piece titled "Becoming" based on John's poem by that title put to an arrangement of Jean Sibelius' tune, Finlandia. It was performed by the Reno First United Methodist Church choir in June.

From **Sylvia Osburn**: This August, my family, my three adult children and I, along with their families, celebrated our annual Family Birthday, for

everyone's birthday. We draw names, and each person gives and receives one gift. This year, we went to the Calaveras Big Trees State Park, for an overnight time together. In spite of the rain, we enjoyed a walk through the North Grove of the Giant Sequoias. Seeing, and experiencing being with these huge trees, and learning the ages of these ancient trees, is an awesome experience, filled with wonder. The next day we spent time next to the Stanislaus River, which separates the North Grove from the South Grove. It's also a county line between Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties. It was sunny and warm, and there were plenty of opportunities to jump from rock to rock along the edge of the river. For many in the group, this was their first time experiencing the Sequoia Gigantia! For my son, Eric, who works for the State Parks in that region, he had the opportunity to 'show us around'.

Dottie Vieira is back engaging with her small doll clothes business, following recovery from femur surgery and an Alaska Inland cruise. Gil also is back from the cruise (they do things together). He continues to participate in Great Minds, a

retired clergy study group, and to contemplate the strange novelties of aging.

Helen and John Foster have enjoyed the privilege of serving as mentors for five probationers--four of them being ordained at conference in June and another hopefully next year. John has been working with the Kings Beach congregation building a new addition to the building with volunteer labor as much as possible. The new extension will provide an accessible bathroom at the sanctuary level which has been billed as "A Simple Act of Hospitality." John enjoys banging boards again, especially together with the good folk of the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking congregations that share the facility.

Myrtle Findley is surviving with a wonderful vegetable garden! Received from the California Garden Clubs, Inc... the first ever given.. LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD and that is from 21,000 members! Am I overwhelmed!

Have set Tuesday, December 7th for our area Retired Clergy Social. Potluck and gathering in my home at Colfax.

Patricia Spooner and Garret Walther spent a couple of weeks in their 13' Scamp Trailer going up Highway 101 through the redwoods and up part of the coast of Oregon. They turned east at Florence and headed toward Eugene. They took back roads up to Portland where they visited with friends and their 23 year old grandson who is working there. After spending four days in Portland they headed

to the Oregon coast near Cannon Beach. It took several days and many delightful stops along the way before they arrived back at their home in Nevada City, CA. Wonderful adventure!! They plan another road trip next year.

George & Louise Carter say that "travel is peacemaking." In their 10 years of retirement they have visited 19 other

nations (including UMVIM teams in 5 nations). They are big on home exchanges, and anticipate another good exchange with a Welsh couple this year in August through the use of www.homeforexchange.com. In their recent trip to Ecuador they were accompanied by Terri Pittman who also will join them in Wales and a tour of Ireland.

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SOUTH FRESNO DISTRICT NEWS
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Sylvia Corson Correspondent

Ray Alderman will have another cataract procedure in October. Ray continues to have back problems. Ray's family is doing well and he enjoys seeing his grandchildren. He and his son, Mark, enjoyed a trip to Fresno to help celebrate a friend's 101st birthday. In the past, Ray took two bicycle trips - one for 1400 and one for 2700 miles - to raise money for World Hunger.

David and Sherry Atkins enjoyed a traveling summer. They spent a week in Florida and had a short cruise to the Bahamas. They both attended their 50th High School reunions: Sherry's in Toledo, Ohio and David's in Dufur, Oregon. While in Ohio,

they visited close friends in Canada. They also celebrated grandchildren's birthdays, and their son's, Eric, engagement announcement.

Ivan and Ruth Ball had an opportunity to visit and play organs in three different churches in Bakersfield. Ruth is a choral accompanist in an elementary school and has stopped substitute teaching. Ivan and his son, Eric, (a cruise lecturer) went on a cruise to Italy, Greece, and Turkey. They visited the new Acropolis Museum in Athens which they found amazing.

Dick Bayard visited his daughter in South Carolina. He enjoyed visiting with his

great-grandchildren: Liam, 18 months old, and, Maggie, two weeks old. Beautiful! He also attended the annual Aldersgate Conference in West Virginia with 1500 United Methodists. Then, Dick went on to Illinois to see another daughter, and witnessed the Mississippi Tug Fest.

Alf Christensen is not doing well health-wise. He is under medical care at home. He asks for prayers and thoughts at this time.

Cecilia Cluff is enjoying her volunteer time at Emerson Junior High School in Bakersfield. She is volunteering at the library as there have been many

budget cut-backs recently. Her daughter is a teacher at this school. Cecilia had a great time visiting her other daughter and grandchildren in Reno this summer. They went to Lake Tahoe and surrounding area. Lovely!

John and Sylvia Corson spent April cruising from Hong Kong to Los Angeles via China, Japan, Korea, Russia and Canada---a marvelous adventure. Sylvia's new knee functioned well! John is recovering from hernia surgery after unexpected complications. They enjoyed their Strawberry cabin with grandchildren and friends in July. A trip to Sedona is planned for this fall.

Harry and Anita Dutt spent July and August camp hosting for the 15th year (17th time) at El Capitan State Park. They flew to South Dakota twice, once for a family reunion and once for Anita's sister and husband's 50th anniversary. Harry performed their wedding. Harry had two cataract surgeries. Anita had to postpone scheduled hip surgery, after a surprise stent procedure.

Mark and Young Moon are still involved at the Christ UMC in Santa Maria where Mark officiates for the Japanese service. They have two sons who both live in Texas. Their second son is getting married, and Mark will officiate at the wedding. They are looking forward to the celebration. Mark is to have back surgery on November 2.

Keep him in your prayers and thoughts.

Bob and Nancy Schwartz had a busy August going in opposite directions. Bob spent almost four weeks in Germany, had a great time, and preached three times in German. Meanwhile, Nancy stayed home, recovering from intensive foot reconstruction surgery. She had to be off her foot for six weeks. You can check Bob's trip by Googling: Bobspeaksout.Blogspot.com.

Alpha and Mary Takagi are getting around well. Mary continues to be on oxygen. Alpha has a small garden and has enjoyed growing his tomatoes and squash. Yum! They are very excited about one of their granddaughters. She received an advanced oceanography degree in Japan, recently. They are delighted to have two daughters living close to them.

Sharon Watson continues her hobby of doll houses. She is delighted with a new doll house from a Philadelphia artist which is an Irish cottage. Her Harry Potter theme set is looking complete. Sharon is concerned about a granddaughter with an ongoing medical problem. Her son, Joel, is presently in Japan, and she hopes she will be able to visit him while he's there.



Author! Author!

Suk-Chong Yu published a book *David Lee's Life and Writings 1878—1928* in Korean. The 270 page book consists of two parts: the first part is Rev. David Lee's life and the second part a collection of his writings published in 1910s. David Lee served as pastor of the Korean Methodist Church in San Francisco from 1911 until he died in 1928. He was the first Korean student who graduated from UC Berkeley in 1913 with major in history after finishing Portland Academy. After graduating San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, he was ordained elder by Bishop Du Bose in 1918. David Lee helped many young Korean students and picture brides who arrived in Angel Island without passport or visa admitted to the States as Port Missionary, official interpreter, and president of Korean National Association which was recognized as an unofficial government body

for Koreans in the United States. He led the Korean independence movement from Japanese control while serving the Korean church. In 1915, he invented a Korean intertypesetting machine in San Francisco by which *The New Korea*, a Korean newspaper, was produced. He was editor of the newspaper and editor of *The Korean Evangel*, monthly magazine published by the church. Rev. David Lee was chosen by the Korean government as one of the seven leaders of the Korean independence movement in the United States along with Syngman Rhee, the first president of the Republic of Korea.

Suk-Chong made a presentation on David Lee during International Academic Symposium in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the establishment of Korean National Association held in L. A. in May.

DAYS OF GRACE GOES PAPERLESS..... IF YOU WISH



As you remember from the October issue of Days of Grace, the Retired Clergy Association now has a dedicated website separate from the Conference website.

One of the benefits of having our own website is that we have the ability to deliver our communication through the website.

The RCA History, past issues of Days of Grace as well as forms and registrations are available as downloadable documents.

IF you would prefer to receive Days of Grace through the website, I ask that you **E M A I L** me at nancydaley@frontiernet.net and I will notify you via email when each issue is available to download.

The benefits of receiving Days of Grace electronically are:

- It's GREEN! No paper!
- It saves money on printing and postage for the RCA.
- It is viewable in full color.

I do insist that you email me so I can create my notification list with your correct email.

You **will** continue to receive Days of Grace in your mailbox **UNLESS** you tell me otherwise.

INLAND SHASTA NEWS

*Georgie Summers,
Correspondent*

Gene Anderson is counting his blessings for quick detection and treatment of shingles and encourages anyone who has had chicken pox to get the shingles shot. Katy has seven watercolor paintings on display at the Chico Sports Club as part of a nine artists show. They are both proud of their granddaughter who began her college studies in September at Virginia Tech where she was awarded a full scholarship for her academic and athletic success in high school.

Bob and Hazel Buckner are presently hosting the family of their younger daughter Kathy until they receive a call to an ELCA church. The family has just returned from a 3-year contract at Woodstock School in India that all of the Buckner children attended while Bob and Hazel were serving in Nepal. Bob continues to be active in Habitat for Humanity projects.

Arlene McLane has been traveling--in April to Phoenix, AZ to visit a niece and childhood church friends, in June to Seattle to visit daughter Jane and family, in July to Monte Toyon for a CFO conference, and to

Santa Clara in September to visit a daughter and son-in-law. She continues to be a facilitator for an adult Sunday School class at Aldersgate UMC in Chico.

John and Elaine Schmidt attended a Schmidt family reunion at North Central College in Naperville, IL in July. John's father attended this college in 1898-99 in preparation for becoming a pastor and five of John's siblings also attended there. Elaine is recovering from shoulder surgery through physical therapy and exercises.

Jerry Summers has finally recovered from his leg infection but is now dealing with short-term memory loss. He will celebrate his 80th birthday with a party at Trinity UMC on September 25 with family members and friends. He and **Georgie** are attending a class on the American Presidency and one on Media, Ethics, and Issues through the Chico State Senior Adult program. Georgie is also teaching a

class of 65 registrants on the Historical Jesus for this program and facilitating the "Living the Questions" series for the adult Sunday School class at Trinity.

Bill and Joan Wheeler were unable to attend their annual family reunion at Shasta Camp this year because of Bill's health; so their four daughters and families invaded Colusa and had the reunion for five days at Colusa State Park. They used the Wheeler home to prepare lunch and dinner each day so that they could include Grandpa Bill in all the fun and excitement. On Labor Day two of their daughters painted their fence and front of their small barn and did major outdoor clean-up which was much appreciated by their parents.

Bryan and Glennis Wilber returned to COP (now UOP) for Bryan's 50th class reunion where he was inducted into the Half Century Club. His was the last class to graduate from COP before it became UOP. Bryan said they had a good time but only saw one or two that he knew well, and he commented, "My, what time did to them."



Alice Friesen went to Lesotho at the end of February through early March as a member of a VIM team. Lesotho is a small land locked country surrounded by South Africa. 40% of the people live below the international poverty line of \$1.25/day. **Alice** taught young adult women to sew during the day and taught children to knit during an after school program at the community center. The center was developed for orphan children whose parents had died of AIDS, but by law it serves the whole community.

Rejean Izerda and Pam Cummings, who were also a part of the team, took computers, a TV, and a DVD player and three sewing machines with them. These were gifts of UMs from all over the U.S. They also took fabric, yarn and games. **Rejean** and **Pam** taught English, music and math at the local school in the morning and worked with children at the at the center after school.

In August, the **Friesens** went to a Shakespeare Camp in

Ashland that was sponsored by the Oregon Conference. They saw Hamlet and Twelfth Night, did river rafting and took a side trip to Crater Lake.

Gayle Pickrell and John Davenport were off on a road trip to Canada, Alaska and Minnesota.

Dick and Vera Patton's granddaughter just had twins. They made a family reunion of this visit to welcome the latest addition to the clan.

Jean Conrad was a delegate at the Unitarian-Universalist General Assembly in Minnesota. It coincided with the Gay Pride weekend. Half the delegates went to the park on Saturday afternoon behind a banner which read "Standing on the Side of Love", to show their support of the celebrants. Jean's daughter, **Megan**, also attended the Assembly. She is a U-U pastor.

Evelyn Schlager went to Carson City to attend grandson, **Nicholas'** high school graduation. He was a

state champion wrestler. From there it was on to Eugene to attend granddaughter **Hilary's** graduation from the Univ. of Oregon. Later **Evelyn** reconnected with a college roommate in Watsonville.

Bill and Noreen Marx participated in the Sonoma UMC CROP Walk. They are going back to China at year's end. **Bill** will be touring with American Philharmonic, hosted by the Chinese government.

Bruce and Mary Ann Warner had a tribal gathering in Yosemite this summer.

Jim and Celinda Current spent so time in So. Cal. to welcome their first grandson. They will spend September in Portugal and end it with a Road Scholar (Elder Hostel) week in Prague.

The next meeting of this lunch bunch will be at the Currents in Novato on Wednesday, October 20 at noon. For directions or to tell us what you've been up to contact revjc@comcast.net (after October 3 please!)

Mark Dodson, son of John Dodson, died recently. A scholarship is being created in Mark's name with the Orvis School of Nursing. Please make checks payable to the University of Nevada Reno Foundation and send to UNR, Reno, NV 89557. At the bottom of the check write: "Mark Dodson Scholarship."

Larry Doyle (Fresno): Give him credit for being positive and concise. He says he's "doing fine." He celebrated his 83rd birthday on 9/11.

Norma Florendo (Atwater): Understandably, Norma continues to grieve on account of the death of her spouse/pastor **Josue (Joe) Florendo** on October 31, 2008. Second anniversary is upcoming. She enriches the Atwater congregation by assisting in the Sunday School and singing in the choir. She values the love, help and support she has received from members of the congregation. Also sustaining: the attentiveness of her family.

Ron & Florence Greilich (Clovis): Ron continues to serve with the Walk to Emmaus ministry as the Western Regional Clergy Leader. This means he is working to help Emmaus Communities have qualified clergy to be spiritual leaders on their weekends. In May Ron & Florence became great-grandparents for the first time with the birth of Pierce Kendall Pope to their grandson Brian Pope and his wife Heather. All are doing fine. In July the Greilichs went to Puerto Rico for a week. Ron was there the first few days as part of his continuing Emmaus training. Then they stayed for several days of sightseeing. They got to the rain forest, the Bacardi Rum factory, two of the major forts in San Juan and a walking tour of Old San Juan. In August they celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary.

Mas & Hope Kawashima (Fresno): Hi! We had an interesting trip this summer when we flew to Florida to visit our daughter & family. They drove us 4000 miles on a road trip from Miami to Niagara Falls (Canada side) using their laptops and GPS. We went to discount hotels, restaurants, Ringo Starr, Paul McCartney, Natalie Grant, Lisa Doolittle & some Christian Artists Concerts in Nashville. We also saw the

major league ballparks, churches, museums, etc. in the major cities on our trip. We spent five days at the Nashville Gospel Music Association conference, and we all participated in their workshops, seminars, etc. It was supposed to be an "educational tour" for our teenage grandkids, 13 & 15 years old. It was a wonderful time of reunion with all of them since we only see them at Christmas when they come to Fresno or in the summer. We're both busy helping St. Paul's UMC & UJCC alternating Sundays with the Choir, organ, string bass, violin or preaching and leading Bible studies. These are indeed "days of grace."

Gussie Kidd (Mariposa): reports "I took three grandsons camping for a week at Summerdale campground near Yosemite National Park. We hiked, fished, floated down the Merced River, and caught and ate crayfish. 'Granny Gussie' still sleeps in a tent! My brother, sister-in-law and childhood friends from Kentucky spent a week with me enjoying Yosemite and the surrounding gold country.

Kim & Denice Leslie (Clovis): Kim Leslie is in his eighth year teaching (English, Bible as Literature, Academic Decathlon, Interfaith Forum adviser) at the wonderfully diverse Clovis East H.S. Denice has been warmly welcomed and very busy in her new pastorate at Hughson. The challenge is having her mother (who has macular degeneration and Alzheimer's) with her and trying to make a weekly Sunday night to Tuesday afternoon trip to Clovis. The Leslies celebrated daughter Moira's wedding in June in Clovis, visited newlyweds in McKinleyville, friends in Missoula, MT, and their son and daughter-in-law in Moscow, ID.

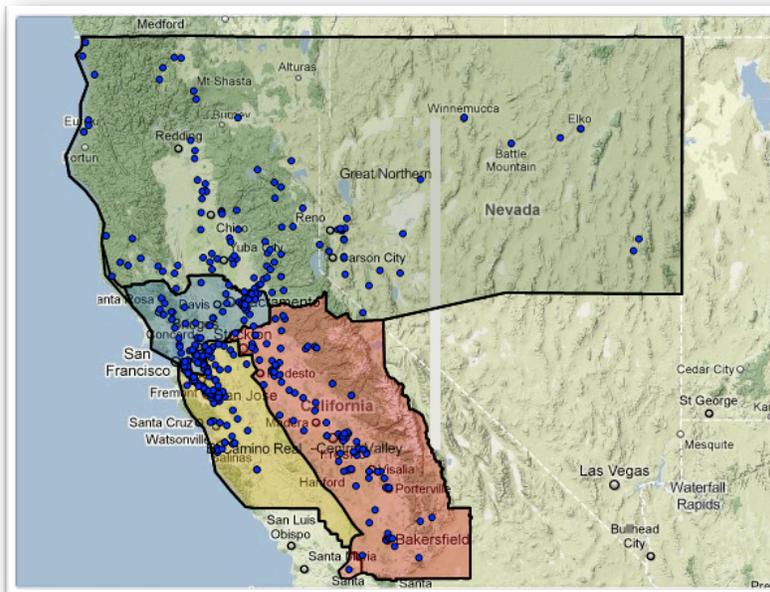
Vic McLane (Fresno): Vic writes saying his granddaughter, Gabriela Marques, graduated from Fresno City College and has transferred to

U. C. Berkeley. "I went with her twice to help get her moved . . . In other activities, I am almost ready to fly to visit my youngest daughter, Heather McLane Marques, Gabriela's mother, in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, where she met her husband Gabriel Marques some 27 years ago. For the past 25 years she has been the U.S. Consular Agent there. I'll return on Nov. 17th."

Bill & Jeanne Sanford (Atwater): 'Tis the season for birthdays. Bill & Jeanne went to Medford in June to celebrate Jeanne's sister's 80th. Is it contagious? Immediate family plan to celebrate Bill's 80th this fall in the Monterey area. Bill can't resist noting here what happened on Aug. 5th in Salt Lake City. He was back there for a week of work at the UMCOR West depot, but

on Thursday evening he was privileged to sing in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Pictures to prove it!

Alice & Larry Morley (Fresno): celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary at Morro Bay where Alice "shopped until she dropped." They enjoyed the delightful seafood and bay atmosphere. Larry did not attend worship for twelve weeks as Pastor Vickie Healy enlisted him to teach summer Sunday School (grades 3 to 6, during the 10:00 o'clock worship service). He also teaches "The New Testament" on Saturday mornings, and "The Story of the Bible" on Tuesday evenings. Last July he was Bible storyteller during Vacation Bible School.



Annual Conference Session 2010 voted to redraw district lines, moving from 7 to 4 districts. The map above gives you an idea where those lines are and which churches are included in each district (represented by the dots). Since so many churches are close together, the dots obscure some of the lines.

The new districts are the Great Northern (DS: Jerry Smith), Bridges (DS: Renae Extrum-Fernandez), El Camino Real (DS: Kristie Olah),

Central Valley (DS: Mariellen Yoshito). Ted Virts will continue to serve as Conference Superintendent. Elders will be conducting annual Charge Conferences within their circuits.

For more information on circuits, see the conference website (www.cnumc.org) or speak to your local pastor. He or she is working with the other churches in their circuit already and can explain the new organization.

California-Nevada Annual Conference the
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Retired Clergy Association
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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Calendar

January 15, 2011
Days of Grace Deadline

April 13-14, 2011
Spring Fling