



## *Grace Notes from Kristie*

In a few weeks we may have a new name. If the clergy and lay members gathered at the Annual Conference Session vote for **four districts**, then San Jose District will soon be no more. Gone too will be the Golden Gate District and the Bay View District, Fresno, Shasta and Nevada Sierra.

The NUMBER of districts is a matter of vote for the Annual Conference. Then, according to the Discipline, the boundaries of the districts and their names are set by the Bishop.

In the Cabinet room and in our dinner time conversations we have been talking and looking at maps. We are ready to reveal our ideas for the new districts. They will be organized around **circuits**, those small groups in which our clergy have been gathering. Just like last year, our pastors will be appointed to a church AND to a circuit.

Interested in seeing what churches will be in YOUR new district? A list is now available on the Conference website, [www.cnumc.org](http://www.cnumc.org). Every church is listed in the circuit in which its pastor participates, so you need to look through it to find your church. We are also in process of creating a good map of the districts.

So, what will our new name be? **El Camino Real**, which is Spanish for the Royal Road or The King's Highway. This trail was developed by the missionaries as they built mission outposts from Sonoma through San Diego and down into Baja California, Mexico. The history of that road is a story of both hope and sadness, as the padres sought to spread the gospel of Jesus. Today we are called to share the Gospel in this same area, as we journey with others along the way. Our challenge is to offer the word with grace and care and respect and care for those we meet.

The El Camino Real stretches through our new district, from South San Francisco to Soledad, with a little spur to Fremont and Mission San Jose – pointing to the East Bay churches of our new district brothers and sisters. We will be about 88 churches strong, of all sizes and ministries in at least 10 languages.

I feel blessed to be called to continue serving you as district superintendent. May we meet in pray and in love for the world, and create together a Kingdom community of grace.

Peace,  
**Kristie Olah**  
District Superintendent

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## Gathering of the Laity and Pre-conference Orientation May 15, 2010



District Lay Leader Nina Klepac led the event and shared her call to speak out and lead.



Derrick Rainbow of Alum Rock UMC told his faith story, past and present, including his call to justice work.



About 60 lay persons and clergy from three districts discussed their connections and challenges to be bold in their leadership.

### District Dinner at Annual Conference

District dinner at Annual Conference session will take place in Capitol Park at 5:30 pm on **June 18**. We will have the same caterer as last year for a hot buffet meal. Sign up by June 11<sup>th</sup>! Questions? Call Pam in the office. (408)295-5341.

### Band Instruments Needed



The San Jose Tongan Fellowship is going to start a **youth band**. There is lots of enthusiasm, but they need instruments and equipment.

Do you have items you no longer use -- or funds to help support this new venture? Needed are guitars, speakers, amplifier, drums, power cords, etc. Your gifts of any size will be greatly appreciated. Call Rev. Sifa Hingano to offer your assistance, 408-613-5005.

## Good Nutrition Program at L.I.F.E. Receives Peace with Justice Grant

Two times annually there are Peace with Justice Grants given to various ministries in the Annual Conference. This year one of the grants went to L.I.F.E. for their Good Nutrition Program. **Life Is For Everyone, Inc [L.I.F.E.]**, located in East Salinas in our UMC East Salinas Family Center, is a not for profit after school program to prevent gang involvement, improve students nutrition, provide safe recreation opportunities and improve English language verbal, written and reading skills. We believe that individual volunteers support of children and youth through caring relationships, high expectations and opportunities to contribute they will develop social competence, autonomy and a sense of self, purpose and future that will not only improve their academic outcomes and health, but will be a deterrent from gang involvement. L.I.F.E. currently has 47 students in ages from Kindergarten through Middle School that come Tuesdays through Thursdays to receive tutoring, and on the other days of the week can come for recreation, crafts and healthy snacks.

Weekdays when the students arrive at 3:00, they receive a healthy snack. The director of the program, Sandra Gomez, at the beginning of each school year talks about the types of snacks they will be receiving and why L.I.F.E. wants all of them to learn about good nutrition. She also focuses on taking no more than you can eat, seconds are available after everyone has had firsts and eating manners. There are then 90 minutes of homework time, with students grouped by ages or classes—they don't all come from the same school—so a table of students is usually working on the same homework. At the end of that period there is 15 minutes time for those done with their homework to hear a story, learn a life skill, or learn new information from one of the volunteers. Those students not done with their homework, continue working on it until their parents pick them up, which can be as late as 7 p.m. At 5:15 there are additional healthy snacks available for the children.



**Healthy Snacks from L.I.F.E.**

### **New DVDs for Parable Study**

#### **For Children**

**DVJ-308 OBJECT LESSONS - "FARM SERIES" - SEEDS, FRUIT, DIRT** with Jim Bergwall takes take us down to the farm to learn some object lessons from the teachings of Jesus.

1. **SEEDS** (29 min.) tells all about seeds--on the farm and in Jesus' stories. Jim Bergwall cleverly illustrates the Parable of the Sower. Jesus uses the seed as a symbol to show how God's Word can grow in the heart and mind of the believer. Jesus talks about the importance of scattering the seeds so that His Word can be spread to others.
2. **DIRT** (30 min.)- Jim Bergwall looks at three different ways Jesus used dirt to provide insights. He tells Bible stories involving dirt and illustrates different kinds of soil. The Parable of the Soils is brought to life for children.
3. **FRUIT** (30 min.)- The viewer finds out some secrets of delicious fruit and what it takes to grow it. Jim Bergwall shows how grafting is done, illustrating what it means for Jesus to abide in us.

#### **For Youth and Adults**

In the **DVJ-530 - 36 PARABLES SERIES**- Each DVD contains short films depicting three beloved parables in modern settings and situations. Special features include background documentaries on each parable and Scripture related to each parable.

1. **PURPLE**- Stories included are: **Out of Reach** (The Friend at Midnight: Luke 11:5-8), **The Car Lot** (The Shrewd Manager: Luke 16:1-13), **Sean** (The Barren Fig Tree: Luke 13:6-9).
2. **LIME**- Parables included are: **Charlie** (Parable of the Mustard Seed: Luke 13:18, 19), **Wise/Foolish** (Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders: Matthew 7:24-29), **Together** (Matthew 13:24-30).
3. **YELLOW**- Parables included are; Buen Cecino (Parable of the Good Samaritan: Luke 10:30-37), **Buried Talent** (Parable of the Talents: Matthew 25:14-30), **Found** (Parable of the Lost Coin: Luke 15:8-10).
4. **CYAN**- Parables included are: **Spilt Milk** (Parable of New Wine in Old Wineskins: Luke 5:36-39), **A Few Weeks Later**- (Parable of the Rich Fool: Luke 12:16-21), **Beyond Beautiful**- Parable of the Two Sons: Matthew 21:28-32).
5. **BLUE**- Parables included are: **The Music Box** (Parable of the Hidden Treasure: Matthew 13:44), **Like Father Like Son** (Parable of the Two Debtors: Luke 7:36-48), **Gnobody's Gnome** (Parable of the Unmerciful Servant: Matthew 18:15-35).
6. **AMBER**- Parables included are: **After Life** (Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus: Luke 16:19-31), **Tractor Safety Tips** (Parable of the Leafing Fig Tree: Matthew 24:30-33), **The Good Shepherd** (Parable of the Good Shepherd: John 10:11-18).

Submitted by *Patricia Strandburg*  
Media Resource Center

## Mission Trip to Tonga

A Mission trip to Tonga is scheduled from Tuesday, Oct.12 to Tuesday, Oct 26. The purpose of the the mission trip is to work together with Sanger Rotary Club to build a solar power to pump water for the village people, set up library for the elementary school and to build relationship and understanding with the Tongan and Polynesian people. We welcome anyone to be part of our trip. The cost for the flight and accommodations is \$2600 per person. The leader of the trip is Rev. Sifa Hingano, pastor of Genesis UMC.

Our next mission meeting is scheduled on Monday, June 21 at 7 pm at Genesis UMC, 1620 Oakland Road, Suite D103, San Jose, CA 95131. Guests are welcome to attend this meeting if interested. For more information, please contact Pastor Sifa at 408-613-5005 or email, <pastor@genesischurch.org>

## Cultural Competency As A Leadership Skill

A Workshop for Clergy -- .75 CEUs

Tuesday, June 15, 2010

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

First UMC Sacramento

2100 J St.

**Leadership:** Shan McSpadden and clergy members of the Intercultural Leadership Institute

**Cost:** \$75.00 which covers  
Registration and Room Rental  
Materials

**Lunch** [provided by the church]

Please let us know if you have special dietary needs

Reservations: needed by **June 8th:**

Contact Shan McSpadden at

[lmcspadden@psr.edu](mailto:lmcspadden@psr.edu)

510-849-8250 (o)

510-597-0177 (h)

## 2010 Western Christian Educator's Conference October 10-13, 2010 Lake Tahoe, Nevada

Join us October 10-13 for "**Generous in Every Way: Growing a Fully Formed Faith**". Our conference leader is Joyce MacKichan Walker, Minister of Education, Nassau Presbyterian Church, Princeton, New Jersey, who will be joined by conference musician and worship leader Victor Floyd...

So mark your calendars, spread the word, and plan on having your constituents well represented with us this fall in Lake Tahoe! On behalf of the 2010 Western Christian Educators' Conference planning team, we remain...

Faithfully yours,

*Julia McCray Goldsmith*  
2010 Publicity Chair

*Wally Hoeger*  
2010 Conference Chair

Online registration is available now at  
[www.westernceconf.org](http://www.westernceconf.org)

The District Spirit takes a break for the summer and will not be published again until September 2010.

During the summer you may get updates on the new El Camino Real district on the district website, [www.sjdist.org](http://www.sjdist.org). Look for changes in the website with a link to a new domain name, and posting a new district email address.

Have a great summer!

## Genesis UMC Invites Us

The Genesis UMC is on the move -- with several programs and events planned over coming months. They are inviting all of us -- all the churches around the area -- to be part of these gatherings. Contact Pastor Sifa Hingano at 408-613-5005, for more details.

**United Youth Conference:** Check out the flyer in this newsletter for information on this gathering for youth in July.

**Celebrate Our Diversity: August 1, 2010, 3 pm.** Does your choir, dance group, drummers, or any other group want to participate? Share in a special event, followed by a **potluck of different cultural foods.** Filipino? Korean? Fijian? Tongan? African-American? Native American? Hispanic? Euro-American? We are all welcome at the table -- and might get to know each other better. Sifa is looking for a fairly large church hall in which to have this event. Interested? Give him a call, please.

**Genesis United Methodist Church Annual Luau: September 12, 1pm.** Save the date. Details will follow.

Would you like Polynesian Dancers for your special church event or luau? Contact Teisa Hingano, please at 559-455-3883.

## Clergy to area churches 2010

Pastor	From	To
Kim, Sun Hee	Walnut Creek, Walnut Avenue	Fremont St. Paul, Associate
Noellert, Cate	Los Altos ¼	Los Altos ½
Buenafe, Mark	Tracy	Marina UMC
Lay, Peter	Oakland Chinese Community	Millbrae New Vision
Macemon, Shirley	Millbrae New Vision	Milpitas Sunnyhills
Lee, Chansoo	Milpitas Sunnyhills	Mountain View Trinity
Kirk, Rob	Concord UMC	San Jose Cambrian Park
Hong, Samuel	Van Nuys, Cal-Pac	San Jose Korean of Santa Clara Valley
Vaca, Brenda	San Francisco Nueva Vida and San Francisco Pine	San Jose La Trinidad
Lee, Stephen	Vallejo First and Alameda Rising Hope	San Ramon Grace
Simon, Dante	Hacienda Heights First Filipino American, Cal-Pac	Sunnyvale Valley Faith

## Clergy Leaving area churches 2010

Pastor	From	To
Olah, Aniko	Marina	Appointed to attend school
Saavedra, Janette	Mountain View Trinity	Clovis Memorial
Lee, Sungho	SJ Korean of SCV	Concord UMC
Saavedra, Juan	San Jose La Trinidad	Fresno, Sierra Vista and Fresno, Grace
Kunkel, Jeff	Morgan Hill UMC	Berkeley Trinity, Interim

## CALENDAR

June 2-4

**Cabinet**

June 16-19

**Annual Conference Session, Sacramento**

June 18

**District picnic 5:30 pm**

June 24-25

**Cabinet**

## June 2010



*The District Spirit* is published September through June by the San Jose District 408 295 5341. The purpose is to keep district churches connected with information on activities and news happenings around the local churches, District and conference. Send your church information to the District Office at [sjdist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sjdist@sbcglobal.net) or email Norah Miller at [nkmill52@cruzio.com](mailto:nkmill52@cruzio.com)

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