

Divine Appointment By Kelly Frankiewicz**Man from Iran**

Recently I went to Tucson to visit my Mother. She's doing fine, thanks - enjoying life with her friends at the "finishing school" as they call it: a senior independent living residence.

You'd think there would be a direct flight there from the OC, but there wasn't, not the day I needed to return home, so my connection went through Las Vegas, home of everything wholesome. As I boarded the flight from LV to OC, I found myself sitting next to a pleasant man who seemed open to conversation. With the usual chat up, I learned that his business is in LV, but his wife and son live in Irvine, so he goes home to them on the weekends. It was a Friday flight. He grew up in Iran, came to the US as a teenager and has lived here 30 years. His upbringing was Moslem, but, as he said, he doesn't believe much of it.

Hearing how long anyone from a non-Christian country has been in the US is a great opening for, "So, you've lived in this predominantly Christian country for ___ years (?); has anyone ever explained to you the 4 principles of Christianity?" At that he volunteered that his sister had become Christian and that she brings him literature and he and his family enjoyed the Christmas Eve service at her church, but he doesn't believe much of Christianity, either, especially the part about turning the other cheek. (No wonder things are in such a mess over there.)

It was now about 15 minutes to touch down. I dropped the 4 Principles theme and said I had an interesting drawing to show him, would he like to see it? He shrugged and said, "Sure," so I grabbed a beverage napkin to sketch out "The Bridge" between God and us. This little illustration emphasizes that none of us is capable (able or worthy) to make our own way across the chasm of death that man's sin has provoked which separates us from God. Only God's own loving gift of forgiveness through Jesus' willing death in our place reconnects us to God. It is, then, God's power living in us that gives us the strength of character to live a forgiving life in this body and look forward to eternity in His glorious presence.

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Thereupon, this fellow announced that he did not believe in an existence beyond this body. OK, I said, if it is true that there is nothing after this body, I will have lived a good life of gratitude to God and sincere, thankful service to God and man in response to the gift of forgiveness I have received and when my body dies, I will die with nothing lost. But, if it is true that there is an eternity after this body which is dependant on one's decision to believe and receive Jesus Christ in this life, then upon the death of your body, **you will have lost everything.**

He was not ready to receive Christ, but he did agree to take with him a tract I offered called, "What's Your Final Destination?" *Some will sow and some will reap.*

To see the Bridge sketch, ask any Contagious Christian graduate. For a copy of, "What's Your Destination?" see Kelly Frankiewicz.

By the Numbers: Attendance

	Sunday <u>SCHOOL</u>	Children's <u>CHURCH</u>	<u>Worship</u>
July 1 st	13	7	71
July 8 th	14	11	66
July 15 th	25	15	71
July 22 nd	19	10	65
July 29 th	19	9	65

**Shrimp anyone?**

by Tyler Brinker

Mark your October calendars with a big 'S' for **shrimp boil** on Saturday, 20 October.

The annual Shrimp Boil will run from 4 -7 PM in Fellowship Hall. Tickets will go on sale in September with the prices being \$10 for adults and \$5 children twelve and under. If you would be willing to help up in any capacity, leave a note for Tyler Brinker in the church office.

**Sermons on CD**

If you missed a message or would like to hear it again, you can order a CD of selected sermons from the months

April through July. Just call the church office and indicate the date you would like to have . You can borrow and return or keep it and share with a friend. If you would like to help with the cost of the supplies for the CD's, just make a donation to 'CD-Sermons'.



Nurture through Small Groups by Leilani Zukemura

Biblical basis for Small Groups

I am not a Bible scholar, but I feel that God calls us to be part of a small group ministry at church. Our Lord Jesus Christ chose a small group of disciples to work with. He sent them out two by two and told us that whenever two or more gather in His name, He will be there with them.

My Experiences in a Small Group

1. I have found that the small groups provide me a “safe haven”. It is a place where I can experience authenticity – I can be my true self sharing my faults, feelings, and failures as well as my strengths and gifts. I know that everything will be held in confidence. I discovered that I was not alone. . . that others too have their weaknesses, doubts, troubles. I found acceptance through forgiveness and mercy not condemnation. I found friends who genuinely want to help me to change.

Presently my “small group” friends have been helping me deal with my unwillingness to forgive a particular person in my life. They have been sharing their own experiences, giving me wise advice and most important of all, praying for me.

2. Studying the Bible or a significant book with other people is different from studying it by yourself. By hearing others’ interpretations or questions, my knowledge and perspective expanded. . . sometimes one can get a glimpse of God and His vision.

3. Small groups provided a place where I experienced “giving” and “receiving.” There was this sense of mutuality operating in the group. We could then go out and share what we learned and practiced in the small group.

Pastor SonHye has shared that she would like to start small groups at FUMCHB. The first group I joined was one that studied Rick Warren’s “The Purpose Driven Life.” I am still active in several of the small groups which she formed at Harris UMC. One is the early morning prayer group; the other is the journaling group and the last is the Sunday School class that is currently studying the book, “The Hand of God”.

How have I benefited through the small groups?

1. This experience has deepened my faith in God. I have learned to trust in Him more with loving reminders and encouragement from friends. I feel more gratitude for all that God does for me and for the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. I worry less as I

trust in God more.

2. I have broadened my knowledge of God and my Lord Jesus Christ through communal Bible study. It is very rewarding when we learn to be more Christ-like together, helping each other, encouraging each other and best of all, celebrating each other.

3. I have learned so much about myself - my weaknesses, my fears and doubts, and my strengths and gifts. I learned how much I can give to others... to serve them in ways that God calls me to do.

4. I have been given such a special gift from God which is available to all of you... to be able to witness His miracles in people’s lives and to feel the Holy Spirit working in us when we pray together, study together and share together.

The bottom line: small groups have helped me to build a closer relationship to God and Jesus Christ. My dear friends in Christ at FUMCHUB, my prayer for you is that you will be open to small group ministry and will allow God to “breathe afresh on you.”

Yours in Christ. Leilani from Hawaii.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted. - Matthew 5:3-4 (NIV)

August 11, Next Free Car Wash by Kelly Frankewicz



Thanks to all who contributed time and supplies, the July Free Car Wash was a great success. FUMCFV and Pastor Lim’s Korean Church pitched in to complete the personnel needs. Folks came in response to notices left on doors, the banner, the Wash

day sign shakers and flyers posted in stores. All participants enjoyed the camaraderie of the shared accomplishment. Several of our guests lingered around the munchie table, visiting with the designated refreshment and conversation hosts. We got acquainted with our guests, heard their stories and even prayed with some for their current needs.

The objective of the whole event was to live into our Mission Statement: *to introduce Christ to those we encounter* by showing Christ’s love in a practical way – washing cars for free and asking how our church could better serve their needs in this community. Our mission *to nourish them and ourselves*

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Katrina Update by Bishop William B. Oden

Two years ago Hurricane Katrina walloped the U.S. Gulf Coast, leaving incredible devastation in its wake. While many immediate needs were met, much work remains. The Bishops' Katrina Church Recovery Appeal was initiated to address ongoing recovery needs of The United Methodist Church in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama-West Florida annual conferences.

I invite and encourage you to mark **Sunday, August 26**, on your calendar and to receive a special offering that will help to:

- Renovate and reopen hurricane-damaged United Methodist churches, parsonages and other facilities.
 - Provide skilled professionals.
 - Grow congregations where memberships have declined.
 - Reestablish community outreach.
 - Train new lay leadership and rebuild church infrastructure.
 - Provide salaries for support staff such as associate pastors, church musicians and Christian educators
- Critically needed are skilled workers such as electricians, finish carpenters, painters, sheetrock hangers, landscapers and more. Also requested are volunteers to teach vacation Bible school, lead congregations in song and assist with evangelical outreach.

I also urge you to initiate congregation-to-congregation partnerships with churches in the affected conferences.

If you or your church members wish to get involved with ongoing recovery efforts, please do one of the following: (1) pick a location from those listed, (2) find a person to work with, discuss and plan your project, and (3) download resources created for the Bishop's Katrina Church Recovery Appeal from the website: www.umc.org/Katrina.

Thank you for sharing this important message with your congregation.

Sincerely, Bishop William B. Oden
for the Katrina Task Force

These are the locations that still need our help:

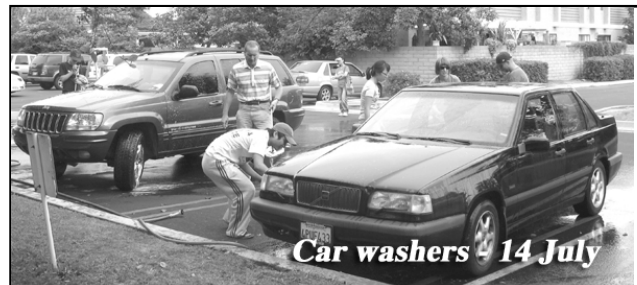
- For Louisiana, visit www.la-umc.org; e-mail lamissionzone@bellsouth.net; or call the Mission



Zone office, (504) 483-8848.

- For Mississippi, visit www.mississippi-umc.org; e-mail disastercenter@meridianumc.org; or call the Disaster Response Center, (866) 435-7091 (toll-free).
- For information for Alabama-West Florida, visit www.awfumc.org; e-mail disaster@awfumc.org; or call the Disaster Recovery Ministry, (866) 340-1956 (toll-free).

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in faith through His Word was served by the camaraderie of the shared experience, the shared stories of outreach successes and by the hope of their eventual return to study and worship with us as their new church home.

You, too, could satisfy the FUMCHUB Mission Statement by helping out with the August Free Car Wash. Bring a friend to help out, too, from 9 AM to 12:30 PM, lunch provided. If your style of outreach is to invite others to an event where someone else is responsible for broaching the spiritual topics, then this is just for you. August 11th your help with washing or drying the cars will be especially needed as the Korean congregation, which has supplied much of the work, has moved to Anaheim. We will miss their cheerful giving in service to the cause of Christ in our community.

Each of us has the power to come to God with a contrite heart ... and to be forgiven. – *SonHye Kim*

Commissioning Contagious Christians

Kelly Frankiewicz taught “Becoming a Contagious Christian” and ten people who participated in that class were commissioned as Contagious Christians on July 22 during our worship service. Those who finished classes are: Sashi Contractor, Leslie Haugen, Sarah Melton, Marge Mitchell, Pat Niesley, Michael Santillian, Lorian Titcomb, Lu Bailly-Trim, Sally Valentine and Denise Vosepka.

Potluck Fellowship

by Lorian Titcomb



On Sunday, August 5th we will have a potluck luncheon following the worship

service. Please bring a dish for six according to the first letter of your last name:

A-F: Main Dish, G-N: Dessert, O-Z: Salad



Lorian Titcomb

Confirmation Class

Rev. Kim is planning to have a confirmation class for the youth 7th grader and older in September. If you have children or grandchildren who are interested in taking this confirmation class, please let Rev. Kim know. There will be an introductory meeting on August 26, 2007, 1:30 p.m. at Room #34. The youth and the parents or grandparents of the youth who want to take the class need to come to this introductory class.



Prayer Meeting by SonHye Kim

In preparing the Revival Worship we had a prayer meeting on July 21st. Eight people came and we prayed for the Revival and our church and for one another. We all felt a strong presence of God and were very blessed. To continue this spirit-filled event we decided to have a prayer meeting monthly. The next prayer meeting will be on August 11th, 2007, 5:00 PM in the sanctuary. Come and join us in prayer.

In August:

Celebrating Birthdays

- 4th Mike Mitchell 5th Skarlet Hill
- 15th Bob Valentine 18th Lois Mills
- 19th Jack Clapp, Savanna Hill
- 20th Alicia Kim
- 27th Julianna Santillan Goode
- 30th Barbara Leonard 31st Ruby Davis

Celebrating an Anniversary

- 11th Jack and Pat Niesley
- 24th Bob and Sally Valentine
- 30th Mike and Marge Mitchell



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