

SPIRIT SONG

From the Pastor

Last week I had a long phone conversation with my brother who has been pastoring the same church in Korea for almost 20 years. He is one of my favorite and respectful pastors although he is younger than me. Admittedly, I sometimes envy his passionate love for God and sacrificial dedication to ministry. Anyway, in our conversation, we shared our common concern about the rapid growth of the unchurched. Regarding this trend, Pastor Lillian Daniel, in one of her books, *When “Spiritual but Not Religious” Is not Enough*, provides a powerful post-modern observation of spirituality, faith, and religiosity in America. Basically what Lillian claims is that more and more people are searching for God—so long as it’s not in church. In April 2010, the front page of USA today even claimed that 72% of Generation Y—those who were born from the early 1980s to the early 2000s—agree they are “more spiritual than religious.”

Good Lord! No wonder why our churches have not been successful reaching out to our younger generation. We have been talking and trying to develop plans and programs as ways to attract people who are outside of the ‘institutionalized religion.’ Where do we need to start? Do we need more sophisticated business plans? Another church-growth initiatives? What about benchmarks?

Honestly, I was often tempted to find an easy and instant answer. And yet I realized that strategies, plans, and programs can never be a true answer to revive the ongoing dying communities of faith. Too often we have institutionalized to the extent that we have forgotten our utter dependence upon the power of God. I believe all true revival/renewal is the work of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, as followers of Christ, our primary task is to pray for the power of the Spirit and discern the work of the Holy Spirit. This is, always has been, and always will be the only hope for our church.

I want to invite all of you to meditate and pray about this matter in depth during this Lenten season. And also you can join us our new Wednesday Study (begins Mar 11 for 7 weeks), “Getting Your Gifts in Gear” during which we will learn the foundational Biblical principles for spiritual gifts and how to unleash your gifts. And also as we finish up our current sermon series, “Unwrapping Spiritual Gifts,” we will start a new sermon series called, “In the footsteps of Jesus” during this Lent.

God is living, active, and powerful, at work in your life and mine at this very moment. With the Bible as our guide, we should also expect God to show up in powerful, life-changing ways among our communities of faith today. It’s time for us to change our expectation. We don’t expect enough of God, and God wants us to expect more. We need to listen to what Apostle Paul said to the church in Ephesus: “Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Grace and peace,
Pastor Taesung

Daily Scripture Readings

Lent, 2015

February 18 to March 28, 2015

These readings are adapted from *The Book of Common Prayer*.

Date	Psalms	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Wed Feb 18	am: 95, 32, 143 pm: 102, 130	Jon 3:1-4:11	Heb 12:1-14	Luke 18:9-14
Thur Feb 19	am: 37:1-18 pm: 37:19-42	Deut 7:6-11	Titus 1:1-16	John 1:29-34
Fri Feb 20	am: 95, 31 pm: 35	Deut 7:12-16	Titus 2:1-15	John 1:35-42
Sat Feb 21	am: 30, 32 pm: 42, 43	Deut 7:17-26	Titus 3:1-15	John 1:43-51
Sun 1 Feb 22	am: 63, 98 pm: 103	Deut 8:1-10	1 Cor 1:17-31	Mark 2:18-22
Mon Feb 23	am: 41, 52 pm: 44	Deut 8:11-18	Heb 2:11-18	John 2:1-12
Tues Feb 24	am: 45 pm: 47, 48	Deut 9:4-12	Heb 3:1-11	John 2:13-22
Wed Feb 25	am: 119:49-72 pm: 49, 53	Deut 9:13-21	Heb 3:12-19	John 2:23-3:15
Thur Feb 26	am: 50, 59, 60 pm: 19, 46	Deut 9:23-10:5	Heb 4:1-10	John 3:16-21
Fri Feb 27	am: 40, 54 pm: 51	Deut 10:12-22	Heb 4:11-16	John 3:22-36
Sat Feb 28	am: 55 pm: 138, 139	Deut 11:18-28	Heb 5:1-10	John 4:1-26
Sun 2 Mar 1	am: 24, 29 pm: 8, 84	Jere 1:1-10	1 Cor 3:11-23	Mark 3:31-4:9
Mon Mar 2	am: 56, 57, 58 pm: 64, 65	Jere 1:11-19	Rom 1:1-15	John 4:27-42
Tues Mar 3	am: 61, 62 pm: 68	Jere 2:1-13	Rom 1:16-25	John 4:43-54
Wed Mar 4	am: 72 pm: 119:73-96	Jere 3:6-18	Rom 1:28-2:11	John 5:1-18
Thur Mar 5	am: 70, 71 pm: 74	Jere 4:9-10, 19-28	Rom 2:12-24	John 5:19-29
Fri Mar 6	am: 69 pm: 73	Jere 5:1-9	Rom 2:25-3:18	John 5:30-47
Sat Mar 7	am: 75, 76 pm: 23, 27	Jere 5:20-31	Rom 3:19-31	John 7:1-13
Sun 3 Mar 8	am: 93, 96 pm: 34	Jere 6:9-15	1 Cor 6:12-20	Mark 5:1-20
Mon Mar 9	am: 80 pm: 77, 79	Jere 7:1-15	Rom 4:1-12	John 7:14-36
Tue Mar 10	am: 78:1-39 pm: 78:40-72	Jere 7:21-34	Rom 4:13-25	John 7:37-52

March 2015

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Wed Mar 11	am: 119:97-120 pm: 81, 82	Jere 8:18-9:6	Rom 5:1-11	John 8:12-20
Thur Mar 12	am: 42, 43 pm: 85, 86	Jere 10:11-24	Rom 5:12-21	John 8:21-32
Fri Mar 13	am: 88 pm: 91, 92	Jere 11:1-8, 14-20	Rom 6:1-11	John 8:33-47
Sat Mar 14	am: 87, 90 pm: 136	Jere 13:1-11	Rom 6:12-23	John 8:47-59
Sun 4 Mar 15	am: 66, 67 pm: 19, 46	Jere 14:1-9, 17-22	Gal 4:21-5:1	Mark 8:11-21
Mon Mar 16	am: 89:1-18 pm: 89:19-52	Jere 16:10-21	Rom 7:1-12	John 6:1-15
Tue Mar 17	am: 97, 99, 100 pm: 94, 95	Jere 17:19-27	Rom 7:13-25	John 6:16-27
Wed Mar 18	am: 101, 109 pm: 119:121-144	Jere 18:1-11	Rom 8:1-11	John 6:27-40
Thur Mar 19	am: 69 pm: 73	Jere 22:13-23	Rom 8:12-27	John 6:41-51
Fri Mar 20	am: 107:1-32 pm: 107:33-43	Jere 23:1-8	Rom 8:28-39	John 6:52-59
Sat Mar 21	am: 102, 108 pm: 33	Jere 23:9-15	Rom 9:1-18	John 6:60-71
Sun 5 Mar 22	am: 118 pm: 145	Jere 23:16-32	1 Cor 9:19-27	Mark 8:31-9:1
Mon Mar 23	am: 31 pm: 35	Jere 24:1-10	Rom 9:19-33	John 9:1-17
Tues Mar 24	am:121,122,123 pm: 124, 125, 126	Jere 25:8-17	Rom 10:1-13	John 9:18-41
Wed Mar 25	am:119:145-176 pm: 128, 129, 130	Jere 25:30-38	Rom 10:14-21	John 10:1-18
Thur Mar 26	am: 131, 132, 133 pm: 140, 142	Jere 26:1-16	Rom 11:1-12	John 10:19-42
Fri Mar 27	am: 22 pm: 141, 143	Jere 29:1, 4-13	Rom 11:13-24	John 11:1-27 or 12:1-10
Sat Mar 28	am: 137, 144 pm: 42, 43	Jere 31:27-34	Rom 11:25-36	John 11:28-44 or 12:37-50

Visit www.CC-UMC.org

Visit the church regularly online to see what's happening and check out the programs and people

March 2015

Youth Group

Thank you for your support in the Super Bowl sub purchases. It was fun making the cookies, and the youth worked hard together to make the subs on Super Bowl Sunday. I hope they made your Patriot's victory viewing more enjoyable.

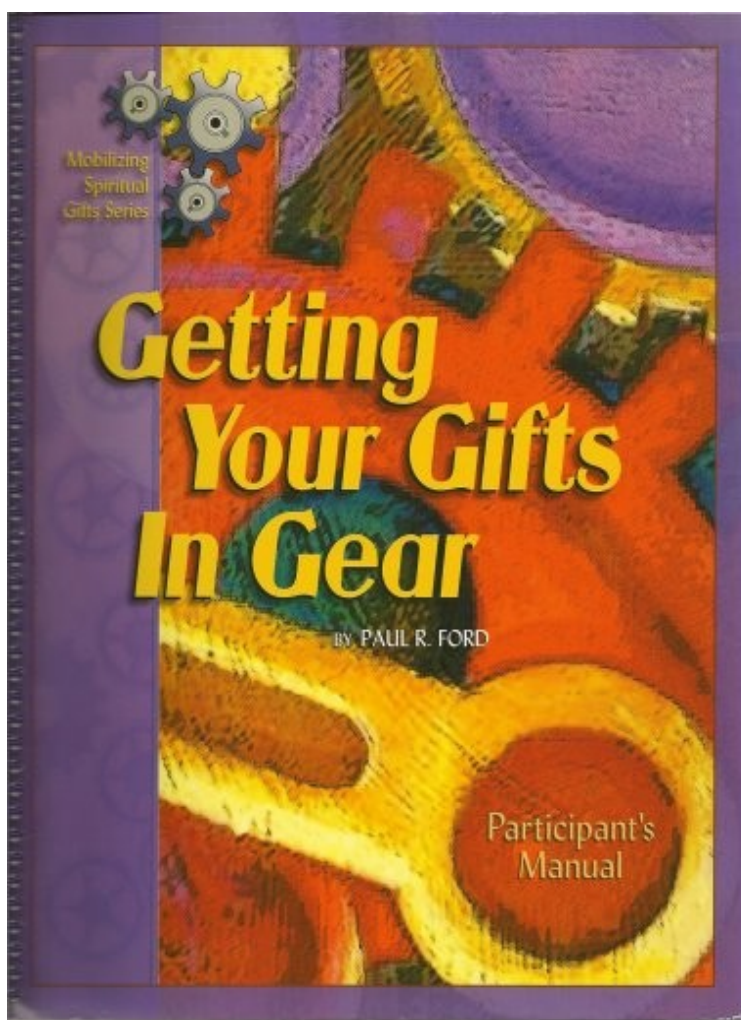
We have tried to go sledding after church during the Caring Fellowship time, but just like the adult groups, we have had to cancel for the past 3 weeks. *Too much snow to go sledding!!* We hope to make it on March 1 after church.

On March 8, we will have a guest speaker who will discuss his work with homeless people in Boston. We welcome everyone to come (youth & adult) for this outreach program.

We will be working towards the 30 hour famine on Easter weekend.

Wednesday Sharing Faith Study Series

**Wednesday evenings @ 7 pm
Begins March 11th**



March 2015

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met on February 21st in Fellowship Hall for a Breakfast Brunch. We had 11 lovely ladies in attendance, all brought a wonderful assortment of Breakfast Goodies. The Brunch was enjoyed by all and the fellowship and food was spectacular. Following the brunch, our most capable leader, Sandy Dam showed us the video "Be Still" by Lisa Chan. This was a very uplifting video and I'm sure everyone in attendance took a message home with them.



Before our meeting, we voted to give \$300.00 so the men could convert the starting mechanism on the kitchen stove. They are looking into this as we speak. We voted to give the Sunday School \$700.00 towards their program. Voted to purchase a new Electric Tea Kettle. Voted to pay Aleta Dam's registration fee for an Educational Seminar at the Church Center at the UN, NYC on April 21-23, 2015.

Our next meeting is March 19th. We will meet at the church. The time for the meeting is 9:00am. Hopefully more ladies will be able to attend a morning meeting. Sandy Dam is looking into a program for us in relationship to UMCOR.

If anyone would like to borrow MISSION TREES, THE UMW NEWSLETTER, please contact Nancy Rand. A copy is also on the Narthex bulletin board.

GOD HAS A PLAN FOR ALL OF US, BUT HE EXPECTS US TO DO OUR SHARE OF THE WORK.

Minne Pearl

GOD BLESS ALL.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Central Ma. District meeting
May 2, 2015 at Fisk UMC in Natick

Central Ma. Fall Gathering
October 3, 2015 Charlton City United
Methodist Church.

**Relish, Bread and Butter Pickles
Governor's Sauce**

If any one would like to purchase Relish, Bread and Butter Pickles or Governor's Sauce please contact Nancy Rand at 508-987-5860. They are \$4.50 per Pint Jar.

**The United Methodist Women will
celebrate 150 years in 2019.**
THIS IS OUR HERITAGE.

We voted to send \$50.00 for the next five years toward a Legacy Fund which has been established. This is a Legacy Fund that will benefit our daughter's daughter and their daughters.

LADIES, as you know we support Hattie B. Cooper Community Center in Roxbury, Ma. Here is a simple way to support them. Collect the UPC code on the Campbell Soup labels, along with many other products. Bring them to our October meeting and they will make sure Cooper Community gets them You can go on the Labels for Education website to see all the many products that also count.

<http://www.labelsforeducation.com/Earn-Points/Participating-Products>

Men's Smoked Shoulder Boiled Dinner—March 15—5:30—7pm

The Men's Group will be providing a Smoked Shoulder Boiled Dinner. Beverage and dessert included. Adults \$10, \$6 for children six to twelve, and children five and under eat free.

Take out orders available.

Coming Soon!

New Sermon Series



Begins March 15th

UMCOR CELEBRATES 75 YEARS OF BEING WITH THOSE IN CRISIS AROUND THE WORLD.

After Super Typhoon Haiyan, which struck the Philippines in November 2013, UMCOR is working to rebuild homes that are more resilient. In Democratic Republic of Congo, UMCOR is preparing local leaders to steer international health-care efforts. In Haiti, UMCOR classes are helping women start and succeed in small businesses. With UMCOR's assistance, residents in flood-damaged Colorado towns are beginning long-term recovery.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



One Great Hour of Sharing gifts lay the foundation for UMCOR to share God's love. The offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business." This helps UMCOR to keep the promise that 100 percent of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not for administrative costs.

SUPPORT OGHS WITH A GENEROUS GIFT TODAY.



LEARN MORE AND GIVE ONLINE:
WWW.UMCGIVING.ORG/OGHS

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of the six Special Sundays of the year.

March 2015

CALENDAR

Youth Group – SleddingSun, Mar 1st at noon
 Caring Fellowship.....Sun, Mar 1st at 11:45am
 Ecumenical Fellowship Tue, Mar 3 at 7pm
 Drumming Circle..... Mon, Mar 9 at 6:30 pm
 Mission/Outreach Thu, Mar 12 at 7pm
 Men’s Fellowship..... Thu, Mar 12 at 7pm
 Smoked shoulder boiled supper Sat, Mar 14 at 5:30pm
 UMW–UMCOR Thu, Mar 19th at 9am
 Community Café Sat, March 28th at noon
 Newsletter Articles Due..... Tue, March 24th
 Holy Week Morning Prayer Begins March 30th

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Sunday School Sunday at 9am
 Adult Bible Study Sunday at 9am
 Worship Sunday at 10:30 am
 Youth Group Most Sundays at 6pm
 Caring Fellowship..... Second Sunday of each month
 Drumming Circle..... Second Monday of each month
 Men's Early Bird Coffee..... Wednesday at 5:30 am
 Women’s Bible Study Wednesday at 10 am
 Sharing Faith Wednesday at 7pm
 Intercessory Prayer Thursday at 11:30am
 AA..... Saturday at 7pm
 Community Café Last Saturday of the month at noon

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RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

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Sunday's
 10:30 am Worship