

REVELATION



*From The
Desk of
Pastor Louis Lee*

“Like A Good Neighbor?”

All of us can appreciate having a good neighbor. Someone who is friendly, thoughtful, and helpful as needed. Jesus tells us, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27c) As Christians we should become this kind of quality neighbor that will be a blessing to others living around us.

This is why my wife and I began a tradition many years ago to host a simple neighborhood party each Christmas season. We did this for over 20 years at our former home in the Bay Area and have continued this tradition for the past six years we have lived in Elk Grove.

Our Christmas parties are usually about 1.5-2 hours long. We ask neighbors to simply bring a dessert or appetizer (meals are more complicated and involved), sing some Christmas carols (with live or recorded

music), have a fun gift exchange, and enjoy informal conversation as neighbors get to know one another better. As the host family, we provide extra small gifts for any kids who attend as well as having extra gifts on hand for the gift exchange to make sure everyone can participate.

It seems to me that most neighbors desire at least a minimal familiarity with their other neighbors, perhaps to wave hello and know each other's first name. This may lead to certain neighbors developing a closer friendship over the years.

Our church has a number of programs and special events each year that enables us to share God's love with our community as well as with family and friends. But we need to remember that each of us as individual Christians have opportunities each day to share God's love and grace with those around us at school, work, and in our neighborhoods. I hope and pray we will be there as good neighbors wherever God has placed us.

I hope you had a blessed Christmas season!
Best wishes for a Happy New Year!

Rick Warren

Pastor, Saddleback Church
Interviewed by Paul Bradshaw
(Originally published March 28, 2005)

People ask me, “What is the purpose of life?” And I respond, In a nutshell, life is preparation for eternity. We were made to last forever, and God wants us to be with Him in Heaven. One day my heart is going to stop, and that will be the end of my body - but not the end of me. I may live 60 to 100 years on earth, but I am going to spend trillion of years in eternity. This is the warm-up act, the dress rehearsal. God wants us to practice on earth what we will do forever in eternity. We were made by God and for God, and until you figure that out, life isn't going to make sense.

Life is a series of problems: Either you are in one now, you're just coming out of one or you're getting ready to go into another one. The reason for this is that God is more interested in your character than your comfort. God is more interested in making your life holy than He is in making your life happy. We can be reasonably happy here on earth, but that's not the goal of life: The goal is to grow in character, In Christ-likeness.

This past year has been the greatest year of my life but also the toughest, with my wife, Kay, getting cancer. I used to think that life was hills and valleys - you go through a dark time, then you got to the mountaintop, back and forth. I don't believe that anymore. Rather than life being hills and valleys, I

believe that it's kind of like two rails on a railroad track, and at all times you have something good and something bad in your life. No matter how good things are in your life, there is always something bad that needs to be worked on.

And no matter how bad things are in your life, there is always something good you can thank God for. You can focus on your purposes, or you can focus on your problems. If you focus on your problems, you're going into self-centeredness, “which is my problem, my issues, my pain.”

But one of the easiest ways to get rid of pain is to get your focus off yourself and onto God and others.

We discovered quickly that in spite of the prayers of hundreds of thousands of people, God was not going to heal Kay or make it easy for her. It has been very difficult for her, and yet God has strengthened her character, given her a ministry of helping other people, given her a testimony, drawn her closer to Him and to people...You have to learn to deal with both the good and the bad of life.

Actually, sometimes learning to deal with the good is harder. For instance, this past year, all of a sudden, when the book sold 15 million copies, it made me instantly very wealthy. It also brought a lot of notoriety that I had never had to deal with before.

I don't think God gives you money or notoriety for you to own ego or for you to live a life of ease. So I began to ask God what He wanted me to do with this money, notoriety and influence. He gave me two different passages that helped me decide what to do, Corinthians 9 and Psalm 72.

First, in spite of all the money coming in, we would not change our lifestyle one bit. We made no major purchases. Second, about midway through last year, I stopped taking a salary from the church. Third, we set up foundations to fund an initiative we call The Peace Plan - to plant churches, equip leaders, assist the poor, care for the sick, and educate the next generation. Fourth, I added up all that the church had paid me in the 24 years since I started the church, and I gave it all back. It was liberating to be able to serve God for free.

We need to ask ourselves: Am I going to live for possessions? Popularity? Am I going to be driven by pressures? Guilt? Bitterness? Materialism? Or am I going to be driven by God's purposes (for my life)?

When I get up in the morning, I sit on the side of my bed and say, God, if I don't get anything else done today, I want to know You more and love You better...God didn't put me on earth just to fulfill a to-do list. He's more interested in what I am than what I do. That's why we're called human beings, not human doings.

CHURCH NEWS



New Tai-Chi Fellowship Outreach

CCC is looking to begin a new outreach fellowship in January featuring Tai Chi / Chi Kung. Contact Dinah Lee at the office or Steve Chan at NunYoBiz@aol.com if interested.



CCC Website Update www.ccsac.net

Online Giving. Keep your eyes out for a new Button on our website that allows you to make online donations to CCC. We hope this allows you to maintain your regular giving even during an occasional absence. We also hope this convenience will not replace the worship aspect of your weekly participation in the offertory portion during Sunday services.

New Blog Entries added to the website. Read **Keith Fong's** three blog entries: *Baptized; Speak;* and *Psalm of Thanksgiving.* Also read **Pastor Louis'** blog on *Bone Marrow Donor Drives.*

New Forum Entries added to the website. The most popular **Sermons Forum** had 188 views following the CCC Consistory reply to Pastor Louis' message on November 7th entitled *Honor Our Soldiers.* The most viewed **Worship Forum** was for the November 14th service with two replies and 183 views.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things.

Philippians 4:8 (NIV)

Post Your Comments. As always, we encourage you to share your comments. The more people who add replies, the more views these entries receive. The result is a greater appreciation of our awesome God which testifies to the reality of Him in our lives. Again, please be interactive with our website. We hope your increased involvement will be a blessing to you and others.

Serving Him,
Your Consistory



THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

By Merrily F. Wong

On Sunday, November 21, 2010, over 200 people gathered in the Fellowship Center to celebrate Thanksgiving. It was a festive event that gave us the chance to pause and reflect upon our many blessings and to give thanks to God for all of them.

Among the blessings that our church is grateful for is the 86 years of faithful ministry to the Sacramento community. Our Founding Fathers would be very pleased that the church they established so many years ago still continues its ministry today. Generations of pastors, members, friends, neighbors, and their families have built upon and nurtured a loving and serving fellowship.

As with any celebration, we recognized several honored guests in our company:

Don and Joan Werkhoven – Don is the Stated Clerk of the Central California Classis and has been a highly regarded and thoughtful consultant to our church many times over the past 15 years.

Rev. Bradley Van Sant and Nancy – Pastor Brad served as our Interim Pastor for a year and a half. In that short time, he and his talented wife, Nancy, left an indelible impression on our congregation.

Many thanks to our helpers – An event like this does not just happen. It takes the concerted effort and devotion of many conscientious individuals working together:

- **Maybelle Whang** and **Mary Yee**, who made the calls and took the reservations.
- **Matt Fong** and his army of strong men and boys who set up and took down the whole room.
- Our outstanding **Worship Team** of musicians who led us in song.
- Our league of **organized men, women, girls and boys**, too numerous to list, who ensured that the evening, and every event that we hold at the church, proceeded without a hitch because of their attention to detail.
- **Mei Fong** and **Karri Yee** with their Sunday School students who decorated our tables with their Thanksgiving turkeys printed with words of gratitude.
- **Consistory Members** who serve as our leaders throughout the year and were greeters that evening.
- **Bob Fong** for the historical display of photos and slideshow of events from years past.
- **Pastor Louis Lee**, whose dedication and hard work on this event and everything else at CCC is a blessing to our church.

However, Thanksgiving would not be Thanksgiving without the FOOD. For this, we thank **Joey and Donald Lee** and their wonderful team of chefs and servers for preparing, cooking and cleaning up after our fabulous feast. No one went away hungry!

To share our blessings a free will offering was taken and donated in its entirety to **Loaves and Fishes**, a Sacramento-based Christian organization that feeds the hungry and shelters the homeless in our community. The overflow of pies that we did not serve at our dinner was also delivered to Loaves and Fishes.

All in all, it was a lovely evening. Thanks to all who contributed so generously of their time, talent and treasures to make our Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration so memorable.

CCC FALL FOOD FESTIVAL

A big thank you to all those who came out to support CCC's Fall Food Festival on Saturday, October 16th. Your contributions add to the success of this event and help keep our church active in the community.

Please enjoy some of the pictures taken during the festival by Bob Fong.



Chinese Community Church

5600 Gilgunn Way
Sacramento, CA 95822

*Chinese Community Church seeks to help transform people
in our community into fully committed followers of Christ.*

2011 Consistory Members

ELDER TOM FONG ELDER STAN SPENCER ELDER MICHAEL WONG

DEACON KAREN CHAN DEACON MEI FONG DEACON MARY YEE

Please feel free to speak to any Consistory Member about any specific joys, praises, concerns or questions.

PASTOR LOUIS LEE E-mail address: AsianPK@aol.com, Phone: (916) 685-1787

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR HOURS TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR.....Dinah Lee
SUNDAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR.....Mei Fong
WORSHIPTed Fong and Dan Fong
COLLEGE AND CAREER FELLOWSHIPPastor Louis Lee
YOUTH FELLOWSHIPPastor Louis Lee and Eddie Silva
GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE.....Matt Fong

Weekly Meetings

Worship & Sunday School – 10:00 AM
Adult Bible Study – Sun. 8:45 AM and Mon 7:00-8:00 PM, classes are taught by Stan Spencer.
Youth Activity Night (2nd & 4th Fridays of month) 7:00-10:00 PM.
College/Career Fellowship -Meetings will be announced
Monday Bible Study – Education Building – 7:00 PM
Women’s Guild Activity – 2nd Saturday of the month – Education Building – 1:00 PM.

CONTACT **DINAH LEE** to submit announcements for the weekly bulletin and/or to share church family information. (916) 424-8900 or ccc95822@yahoo.com.