



First United Methodist Church of Oroville

Vol. 33

March 2010

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Shasta District Superintendent
Benoni Silva-Netto

Rev. Laura Heffernan
Bishop of Cal/Nevada Conference
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The Golden Feather



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A Journey To Hope

Story: by Chuckua Yang

1960–1975

I was born Koua Neng Yang on June 12, 1960 to my parents Mr. Soua Yee Yang and Mrs. Va Vang in a small village called Namchao, Mouang Khamker in the province of Khammouag in the Southern part of Laos. It was just a little over a decade after the WWII and about the time the Vietnam War started in Indochina. I had twelve siblings, six sisters and seven brothers, including me, but we lost two sisters and a brother to the War.

Now we six brothers and four sisters, all live in the United States of America and each have our own family. A younger sister and her family of nine live in St. Paul, Minnesota; the youngest sister and her family of eight live in Santa Ana. One younger brother and his family of six live in Atlanta, Georgia,; two youngest brothers and their family of four each live in Sacramento. The oldest sister Vang and In-law Nouchang Vang's family of fifteen, the younger brother Zongchang's family of eight, a youngest (a twin) sister and her family of eight, and another younger brother Joey and Tracy family of eight also live in Oroville. Most of my siblings were born along the Journey place to place from 1960–1976.

My parents were killed in a matter of months by poison while they went to gather foods for the family in a farm. The chemical called Yellow Rain, which was dropped by airplane from the Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR) government who were trying to get rid of all the Hmong people who were hiding out in the jungles for fear of torture, imprisonment or death when captured. Most of the family members were soldiers of General Vang Pao who've served under the U.S. Secret War (the CIA operation) to protected their homelands, downed American Pilots and most of all to block the Ho Chi Min Trail.

Since I can remember my family had no real place to live (no permanent home). We've lived in makeshifts cover with the banana and palm leafs to hide out. We did not stay long at any place, as the elderly have said, "We have not lived in that banana tent till it leaves wither and dry out."

I don't recall much about farming during those years. Our main food was rice from the sky. Any children who grew up during those times knew them only as foods from the sky. We depended on General Vang Pao and the CIA for food and supplies. During the journey my parents always taught us children how to get ready along with our belongings at all of the time because at any hours we could move again. Our journey to hope was to the north. Within that ten-year period we moved place to place routinely. Because of the War there were limits to the boundaries where we could live. Therefore you have to move on often onto the next safer place, sometimes by night, I remember we started to walk when there was a heavy gun battle. At the time, I could only carry a water pot and hang by a cousin whose parents were killed. He was part of the family. My father carried some rice on the back, a gun on his shoulder and a baby on his chest. My mother also carried some foods on her back and the other twin baby on her chest, because we were blessed with a twin sisters just born a couple days ago to our family.

We came out from the jungles to a road where service trucks can transport people to a safer place and an airport where we've flew in a C-120 US Air Force cargo plane to an urban town called Moungha, Chiangkhouang province which belonged to the Soldier Regional Two.

In 1970, I could enroll to enter the first grade, and was the first ever to attend school. There, my family continue to received support with food, supplies, medical care and education for some time, my parents were able to enjoy their farming and the life they wished. People lived with the wonderful, safer and happier life - that was 1975 which "A Journey to Hope" was about to over due to the communist regime taking over Laos.

Again! Another journey started: Where do we go from here? Where is the journey to hope? Please look for the "A Journey to Hope" Part Two in the next April Article. Thanks.

God bless,

Pastor Chuckua Yang

March Birthdays

1 Wa Soua Vang

3 Pao Vang

4 Alie Cha Yang

6 Yee Khang Yang

6 Tong Ge Xiong

8 Abraham Xiong

9 Paull Xiong

11 Gail Eatough-Smith

12 Joan Jacobsen

13 Randy Fowler

15 Dakota Hoover

16 Alma Short



16 Janet Short

16 James Xiong

18 David Dewey

18 Penny Vang

19 Mathew Xiong

19 Neng Vang

19 Donna Van Maanen

20 Linda Dewey

20 Cecilia Reinhardt

21 Mai Vang

24 Douglas Jacobsen

29 Cari Erwin





SOUND BYTES soundbuds@att.net

Still in the works:

Completion of the sound booth

🎵 Building a cabinet in the Social Hall for a permanent sound system setup,

🎵 2 more speakers in social hall,

🎵 Rewire the speakers in the social hall,

🎵 More microphones (both wired and wireless) for sanctuary and social hall

Assistive listening

Have a need for additional media for a Sunday Service or special occasion?

Please contact Jeremy Buis by leaving a message at the church or email at the above address.

Please have a list of media items you will need and the date(s) and time(s) you will have a need for this service.

If you are not sure what you will need, he or an associate will meet and go over it with you.

We need at least one week's notice to prepare and set up the equipment .



Nursery

There is new curriculum in the Nursery for our little ones. “Toddlers and Twos” teaches that God loves them every week. We continue to need helpers in the Nursery. We need two adults in the Nursery at all times, even if there are no children. Please sign up for a Sunday to help Suaida.

Parents: Only children age 4 and under may be in the Nursery. No other children or youth may be in the room. Children and youth over 4 years of age should either be in a Sunday School



Children's Church



There are now three Children's Church classes during the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. We need volunteers to help teach these classes, both men and women. Beverly Bailey will be signing people up to help with the Younger Class (Preschool–3rd Grade). Pastor Chuckua and Pastor Laura will be looking for men and women to help with the Older Class (4th – 5th Grade). The third class is Confirmation for 6th grade and up. Curriculum will be available to use and supplies readily available. Please give an hour every couple of months to our children.



- March 28
 - Palm Sunday - the processions of Palms by the children in a combined Palm Sunday Service.
- April 1
 - Maundy Thursday
 - Dinner at 6:00 p.m. - soup
 - Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- April 2
 - Good Friday Service at 12:00 p.m. by the Cooperating Christian Churches of Oroville at the First Congregational Church
- April 4
 - Community Sunrise Easter Service at 6:45 a.m. on the levee at Centennial Pavilion. Plan on joining with the other churches.
 - Easter Worship 10:30 a.m.
 - Easter Egg Hunt following the combined service



Basketballs Needed



We need basketballs for our basketball court. If you have a used basketball that is still in good shape, donate it to our basketball ministry. The Trustees are putting up nets on the basketball court. We would like to keep basketballs out for the kids in the community to use.

Now, inexpensive basketballs would also be great.



Easter Egg Hunt



We will be having our traditional Easter Egg Hunt for the children after worship on Easter Sunday. Please bring boiled and colored eggs to the Social Hall on Easter morning before worship. You may bring the plastic eggs already filled with candy or prizes before Easter Sunday and give them to ***Barbara Thompson or Joline Hibbert*** for safe keeping until the big hunt. Thank you



4TH ANNUAL GOURMET DINNER AND AUCTION

On Sunday February 14, 2010 we held our 4th annual Gourmet Dinner and Auction at the church. Money taken in on the Gourmet Dinner was \$1,220.00. Raffle \$280.00, Live Auction \$780.00, and the Silent Auction \$1,286.00. After expenses from the dinner of \$1,202.69 we will show a profit on The Gourmet Dinner and Auction of \$2,363.31. People attending the auction also made donations of \$87.00 to purchase and send kits to help the people in Haiti. The donations for the kits will be sent to UMCOR and they will make sure the kits get to the people in Haiti.

The profit on The Gourmet Dinner and Auction will go into our money market account. \$500.00 of the profit will go into our Fundraiser Seed Money for future church fundraisers. This money is used to purchase the food and supplies for our fundraisers. This way we do not have to take money out of the general fund for a fundraiser when we need the money in the general fund to pay church bills. The remainder of the profit \$1,863.31 will be used for developing projects for the youth in our church.

The Finance Committee would like to thank Randy Fowler for purchasing the food and cooking the delicious gourmet dinner of prime rib and prawns. We would also like to thank Cynthia Slattery for going out to businesses



Photo by Linda Perry



Photo by Linda Perry

We want to thank Kevin Benedict for being our auctioneer again this year. This is the fourth time he has done the auctioneering for us and he always does such a good job and makes it such a fun evening. We want to say thank you to Barbara Thompson, Gerry Miller, Micah Buis, Linda Perry, and Georgia Nelson for help in the kitchen, Elaine Klein for helping get the Fellowship Hall ready and setting the tables, Sandy, Cathy, and Cari for collecting the money for the auction items that the people purchased

after the auction was over, members of our church that donated items for us to auction off, the businesses all over Oroville that made donations for our auction, our youth that let us use their beautiful Valentine's decorations that they had used at their dinner the night before, the youth that helped in the kitchen and then serving the dinners to our guests and doing such a good job, Susan Sharon for doing such a good job with the youth making sure that the dinners got to the tables in the fellowship hall, Pat Foster for making the coffee, Jeremy Buis for taking care of the sound during the auction, Jeremy and Nonie Buis for taking care of the advertising, Linda Perry for taking pictures, the youth for taking care of the cleanup after the dinner was over, and Gladeen for helping me with the tickets and the money at the door and for helping Randy to get the food on the plates during the dinner. It takes so many people to put on the Gourmet Dinner and Auction.

If I forgot to thank anyone that helped in any way I thank you. And thank you everyone that came to the Gourmet Dinner and Auction and made it a success again this year. Thank you everyone. This was a fundraiser to

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 pm Trustee's	2	3 Wednesday Service Schedule	4 Thursday Service Schedule	5 Friday Service Schedule	6
7 Sunday Service Schedule	8 5:30 pm Finance	9	10 Wednesday Service Schedule	11 Thursday Service Schedule	12 Friday Service Schedule	13
14 Sunday Service Schedule DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME 	15	16 12:00 pm CCCO at St. Thomas Catholic 6:00 pm SPRC	17 Wednesday Service Schedule	18 Thursday Service Schedule	19 Friday Service Schedule	20
21 Sunday Service Schedule	22	23 6:00 pm Church Council	24 Wednesday Service Schedule	25 Thursday Service Schedule	26 Friday Service Schedule	27 8:30 am Oroville Hunger Walk @ Riverbend Park
28 Sunday Service Schedule  PALM SUNDAY	29	30	31 Wednesday Service Schedule	1 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday meal at 6 worship at 7	2 12:00 pm Good Friday Service at First Congregational Church	

Food Pantry

Thanks to our wonderful congregation for supporting the food pantry and helping to feed the people of our church and community. Pastor Donna reports the pantry is used frequently.

The Outreach and Witness committee would like to try a new approach to keeping the pantry stocked. Beginning in February we are asking that the congregation bring different food items each Sunday of the month. By doing this we hope to keep the pantry stocked with a variety of food. **NON PERISHABLES ONLY!** We don't expect you to bring everything on the list, just whatever you can.

1st Sunday: Canned meat (ham, chicken etc), tuna, vegetables and fruit.

2nd Sunday: Macaroni and cheese, dry pasta, rice, pasta sauces, peanut butter & jelly.

3rd Sunday: Soup, canned stew, chili, pastas (spaghetti, ravioli etc), crackers.

4th Sunday: Oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup, dry cereal, granola bars, powdered milk, juice.

5th Sunday: (when there is one): Your choice!



The Faith We Sing



We are starting a campaign to order an additional 30 “The Faith We Sing” song books. You have the opportunity to purchase a book in “Honor” of or in “Memory” of a family member or a friend. The books are on sale for \$10.50/\$12.33 with tax & shipping until the end of March. We would like to be able to order them by March 20, 2010. Please make your check payable to FUMC and indicate Song Books in the memo of your check. You may also pay by cash. Please complete the form below so that a placard can be placed in each book. Please complete a form for each book purchased.

The Faith We Sing

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Book purchased by _____

Phone Number _____

Joys and Concerns:



Remember those in our church family in need of prayers:

Robin & Sem - in an auto accident, but okay; **Joan Keller** - at home now, following hospital stay for pneumonia; Linda Perry - needs prayers for her son, **Scott**; **Michael Grainger** - home now & doing better; **Selena Heffernan** - changes in her medication; **Jeremy Buis** - ongoing problems with fibromyalgia and his health in general; **Bruce Barton** - admitted to the hospital for influenza & pneumonia; **Robin Rich** - concerns for her future living conditions; **Pastor Laura's sister Karen** - has been dealing with mono; Sue Frederickson's sister **Jo Abernathy** - recent car accident; Emily Heffernan's friend **Brenda Morgan** - recent hip surgery.

Those with ongoing concerns:

Kenneth Felice; Wright & Elaine Larkey; Theresa Abernathy; Skip Shelton; Tim Witzche; Wang & Yer Vang; Kathleen Sharkey; Alice Pittman; Roy Stai; Sara Green; Spencer Bateman; Ann Boudrot; Darin Petty; John Brown; Tracy Hayes; Katie & John Voos; Haley Warren; David Jacobsen; Michael Grainger; Bobby Ludolf; Loraine Hiett; Ross & Wendi Ewalt; Bruce Barton; Lynn Barnett; Chris Barnes; Mary Ruth Heffernan; Betty Ball; Virginia Field; Harriet Steiger; Doris Miller; Sue Fredericksen; Tyler Yang; Jeff Felice; Pastor Donna's cousin Elizabeth; Gladys James; Ka's mom - Khou; Mee Lee & Tong Xiong; Rachel Brown & family & Tristan Brown; Margaret Brown; Emily Heffernan, Jeremy Buis; Joan Keller; Cecilia Reinhardt

Those suffering loss of a loved one: the **Family of Don Pinney**, who passed away on January 28th; and the **family & friends of Susan Elder**, who recently passed away.

Joys:

Longtime member, **Katie Voos** has just celebrated her 102nd birthday. According to Helen Beall, she is doing just fine & if you want to visit or send a card, **Katie & John are at Prestige Assisted Living, 400 Executive Parkway #212, Oroville, CA 95966**. Please call first if you are going to visit, 533-4795.



HEIFER RECYCLING

January/February \$23.52



BAGGED CANS OR PLASTIC BOTTLES:

PICK UP CAN BE ARRANGED IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO BRING THEM TO CHURCH. LEAVE MESSAGE AT CHURCH OFFICE FOR MICAH OR JEREMY BUIS

HEIFER HELPS HAITI MARCH 14th PHOTO SESSION

Sunday, March 14th we will be taking a photo to be sent to the Oroville Mercury. It will include the information as to where this year's donation will be designated.

Please remember to bring your recyclables to the Social Hall to raise money for Heifer Helps Haiti. Joline Hibbert will be sending the money raised the the Heifer Project very soon.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class begins Sunday, February 21. All youth 6th grade and older, who have not made a Profession of Faith, are welcome to join the class. We will meet each Sunday from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. during Children's Church. The Bishop's Confirmation Retreat will be April 2-3 and Confirmation will be Pentecost Sunday. Come join us.

TRUSTEES

No report this month

SONWALKERS

No report this month

Treasurer's Report General Fund

Deposits 2/1/10 thru 2/11/10	14944.61
Checks written 2/1 thru 2/11	<u>10598.06</u>
Difference	4346.5

This report is from 2/1/10 to 2/11/10 due to having to get info in for the Feather by the 15th. Next month I will give a report from 2/11 to 3/11. As you can see, we are doing well so far this month. **However, I have enough bills that need to be paid this week to more than take the \$4346.**

Betty Ledford

Oroville UMC Peacher Endowment

We have a new Endowment to help support First United Methodist Church of Oroville in the future. This endowment can be added to by anyone. No amount is too small or too large. All giving to the Endowment is tax deductible. The church will receive the income off the principal. **Let's build it up.**

Finance Reports for All

The monthly financial reports and quarterly endowment statements are posted on the bulletin board in the Social Hall next to the Fireside Room. We want you to know what is happening with your giving. If you have questions, talk to **John Fowler, Betty Ledford, or**

Publicity

Our publicity is being handled by Jeremy Buis and Nonie Buis. If you have an event please let them know by completing the following form.

PUBLICITY FORM

This must be filled at least three weeks before the event.

Name of event _____

Date(s) of event _____

Place of event _____

Start & Stop time of event _____

Special Information concerning event _____

Contact person and phone number _____

Email this information to: umc@1stunitedmethodist.org

MARCH Worship

March 7th

Greeters: Christl Yates & Sarina Yates

Coffee Hour: Penny Xiong & Ye Vang

Liturgist: Communion Sunday

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Sem Xiong

March 14th

Greeters: Tyler Yang & Nan Vang

Coffee Hour: Pat Foster & Betty Ledford

Liturgist: Janet Short

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Richard Fancher

March 21st

Greeters: Betty Ledford & John Fowler

Coffee Hour: Chuck and Bev Bailey

Liturgist: Pao Vang

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Susan Sharon

March 28th

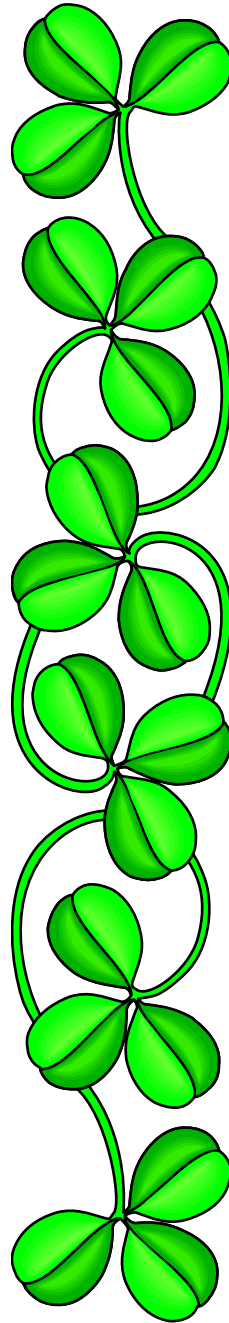
Greeters: Helen Beall & Linda Perry

Coffee Hour: Stu and Lynn Shaner

Liturgist: Elaine Schmidt

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Kyle Buis



Dinner @ Six

March 3: Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread & Dessert.

Nurture Committee is cooking

March 10: Corn Chip Tamale pie, Warm Tortillas, Salad & Dessert.

Finance Committee is cooking.

March 17: Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad & Dessert.

Worship Committee is cooking.

March 24:

Pastor Chuckua and the Hmong Congregation will be cooking.

March 31: No dinner, this is Holy Week and we will have Maundy Thursday meal on April 1.

2010 Vision Plan

Visitation

Visitation Team to Shut-Ins with
Communion
Visitation Team to New Visitors

Tape Worship for Shut-Ins

Nurturing Each Other

Hmong Classes Expansion-10:30 a.m.
Women's Sunday School
Men's Sunday School
Youth Sunday School
Children's Church Expansion-10:30 a.m.
 Preschool-3rd Grade
 4th-5th Grade
 Confirmation - 6th-7th Grade
Hearing Impaired System for Worship
Fellowship Groups
Young Adult Group
Prayer Night Moving to Tuesday so that Hmong can
attend Dinner @ 6
Add family maximum to price for Dinner @ 6

and other meals
Two Projectors and screens in Worship
Youth and Young Adults Trained on Sound
System
Sponsor Piano Class
Youth Worship Service
No Talking During Preaching
Hmong Worship Begins at 8:30 with Music
Hmong Stay for Fellowship
Family Camp August 12-14 at Mt. Shasta
More Studies
Support Youth
Confirmation Camp
Add Children's Names to Directory

Facility CareFacility Care

Fund Trustees
 Honor Community Leader
 Use Most Fundraisers
Fix Roof
Women will Prepare Food for Trustee Workdays

New Cordless Phones in Office
New Lights Everywhere Especially Sanctuary
Air in Kitchen
Fix Lights on New Sign

2010 Vision Plan continued

Connections with

Children's Fair

Finish Risdon Court
Bulletin Board by Office

Making Space for All

VBS

Make Prayer Place Available
Summer Sunday Morning Breakfast for Children
Summer Lunch Program for Children – Paul Mabie–Sierra
Del Oro
Permanent Opening to Trailer Park
Sneaker Drive
“Rise As You Are Able”
Clear Chancel of Items Not Needed in Worship

in Other

Youth Service Projects
Community Concert by Youth
Valentine Dinner February 13
Outreach to Non–Church Goers and to Youth

Churches
Use Sanford Chapel
Restore Basketball Courts

Have Fun Doing God's

Not Be Scared
Encourage 10% Tithing
Rummage Sale
Youth and Patty work together on Preludes
Monthly Eggroll Fundraiser
Expand Booths for Asian food

Hmong New Year Booth

Build Grill on Trailer
Easter Sunrise Service in Community Park
Hang Members' Art Work in Fellowship Hall
Mother/Daughter Banquet
Create Daffodil Hill

Check Oroville FUMC website link for 2009 & 2010 vision plan:
http://www.1stunitedmethodist.org/OFUMC/09_10_Vision_Plan.html



Contact:
Pat Foster
& Emily
Fancher to
sign up for





Oroville Hunger Walk

**Saturday, March 27, 2010
at Riverbend Park**

- ★ 8:30 to 9:00 am – Sign-Coffee / Doughnuts served at Sign-In
- ★ 9:00 Walk begins
- ★ Food / Refreshments after
- ★ **100% of the funds raised will go to Oroville organizations providing hunger relief**
- ★ Feed the People
- ★ Oroville Rescue Mission
- ★ Salvation Army
- ★ The Hope Center

**Sponsored by the
Cooperating Christian Churches of Oroville
(First Congregational Church, First United Methodist Church, Raven Ministries, St. Paul's Episcopal Church,
St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Trinity Bible Church, Trinity Presbyterian Church)**

"I was hungry and you gave me food." – Matthew 25:35
For more information call: 534-0354 or 534-9455

*THINGS
FROM
OUR
ATTIC*



The Old Church at Easter



Easter 1941

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Oroville

Celebrating Over 150 Years Serving The Oroville Community

Sunday Service Schedule

Adult's & Children's Sunday School	8:45 a.m.
Hmong Service	8:30 a.m.
Children's Bells	10:00 a.m.
Hmong Adult's & Youth Sunday School	10:10 a.m.
English Service	10:30 a.m.
Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class	11:00 a.m.
Lenten Bible Study	3:00 p.m.

Wednesday Schedule

Men's Bible Study & Breakfast @ Hofbrau	8:00 a.m.
Bible Round Table & Prayer	1:30 p.m.
Community Prayer Service	4:20 - 5:20 p.m.
Bell Choir Practice	6:45 p.m.
Dinner @ Six each Wed. Sept. to May	6:00 p.m.

Thursday Schedule

Bible Study & Breakfast @ Cassidy's	7:30 a.m.
Discussion Bible Study	11:00 a.m.

Friday Schedule

Sonwalkers Youth Group Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Hmong Ladies Choir Practice	5:30 p.m.

Our mission is to know Christ and make Christ known: to nurture our relationship with God and our commitment to Jesus Christ, to invite others into the community of faith, to equip, send and support Christians for daily witness and service.