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台語禮拜 主日上午十時
English Service Sunday 12 noon



Reflections from One Night Count - Tom

I had the opportunity to participate in the annual One Night Count again this year. As you read in the last newsletter, ONC is an activity organized by the Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness to document homelessness and to build public engagement.

At 1:30am on Jan. 29th, volunteers gathered at designated meeting places and were divided into teams of 8~12. Each team was led by a trained volunteer, and assigned to cover a specific region. Walt and I were on the team responsible for the Factoria/Eastgate area. The team leader briefed us on the rules and what to expect. Aside from safety, the top priority was respect for the homeless. We were to treat it as if we were walking in someone's bedroom; being quiet and careful, keeping a distance, and not pointing flashlights into cars and tents.

Then we were off. We looked for signs of occupied cars in parking lots, and we walked through wooded areas, under bridges and around overpasses. The weather was much better than in previous ONC's. It was not raining, nor terribly cold, but my perception changed as we stayed out longer. While we might typically consider an overnight temperature in the 40's to be mild, being unsheltered and exposed for a whole night would change our minds. Any time we were stationary, I could feel heat escaping from my body. Yet it was truly a warmer-than-average dry night. The homeless have to endure this and much worse for the entire night, every night. It makes me wonder how often we overlook or are ignorant of the needs of others simply because we never have to experience what they go through.

A member of our team had been homeless in the past. He was an invaluable source of knowledge, leading us to typical encampment areas and providing a narrative from his experience. He told us that the homeless would try to find secluded spots in order to sleep undisturbed. Indeed we found people sleeping deep in the wooded hills and ravines that were tough to access, even though they were right next to buildings and highways. I couldn't help but think about how many more homeless people I pass by everyday without even knowing their existence.

In the end, a total of 2759 people were found to be sleeping on the streets, in parks, in cars, and in makeshift campsites in King County. This does not include the 5800 that stayed in emergency shelters or transitional housing. In a follow-up email from SKCCH, the director called us to educate friends about the scope of homelessness in our county, connect community members to opportunities to help their neighbors who are homeless, apply pressure to elected representatives to fund housing and homelessness solutions.

God calls us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and care for the poor; but too often we don't see them. Whether we consciously avoid it or not, the reality is that there are whom God loves homeless in our very own neighborhoods. Perhaps like me, the feeling of not making any lasting difference has discouraged you from helping. But there are collective and concerted efforts aiming to end homelessness for good. To become please learn more at <http://www.homelessinfo.org/>



Community Service Focus of the Month

Volunteers wanted to serve the elderly

It's been said that having an elder at home is like having a treasure. The Bible also says "Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?" (Job 12:12). Indeed, the elderly have accumulated many years of experience and wisdom, and we truly ought to learn many things from them. Throughout their journey of faith, they also have much experience walking with God, from which they can encourage the younger generation. Therefore, we really should cherish the Caleb Fellowship in our church family as a treasure from God. Not only that, the Bible also teaches us to look after the alien, the fatherless and the widow (Deuteronomy 24); and to "learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow." (Isaiah 1:17) This matter is close to God's heart, so let us care for the elderly in our community.

Ideas for Acts of Love:

1. During lunch on Sundays, take the time and effort to greet the elders from Caleb Fellowship. Shake their hands and say hello.
2. Target one or two of the elders from Caleb Fellowship. Make time to chat with them on Sundays, and ask them if there is anything that you can pray for them for.
3. The fellowship or small group you belong to can organize activities to connect with the Caleb Fellowship. Contact the PIC, set a date, or simply visit the elders during their gatherings to sing some songs, share a meal, or perform for them.
4. During the week, pick up the church directory and call the elders. Care for them; chat with them and pray for them.
5. Sign up with the Connection Committee as a volunteer to serve the elderly. The Connection deacons will organize opportunities to serve, which could be chatting and sharing with the elders, providing transportation, or other forms of caring. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up with deacons David or Mike Shen, or send an email to communityservice@seattlefcc.org

In addition to caring for elders in our church family, there are quite a few non-profit organizations in the greater Seattle area that provide service to the Asian elderly community.

Asian Counseling and Referral Service

ACRS provides a broad array of human services and behavioral health programs to Asian Pacific Americans in King County. Their services include providing information and assistance, case management, home care service evaluation,

nutritional consultation, food bank, and counseling. To learn more, please visit <http://www.acrs.org/>

Asian Senior Concerns Foundation

ASCF was established in 2001 by a group of professionals. Its mission is to enable elderly to enjoy reassured, comfortable, healthy and happy retirements. The foundation organizes a wide range of activities, including chorus, Tai-chi, painting, group dance, health seminars, travelling, book club, computer classes, Mah-jong, etc. Those interested can inquire about their activity schedule. The web site is <http://www.ascf-seattle.org/>

Kin On Community Care Network and Health Care Center

The Kin On Nursing Home is well known in the Chinese community. Kin On has also expanded service to elderly that live at home. Home care is provided by trained service workers, and includes assistance with hygiene, daily living, and housework. Social services assist patients with Alzheimer's disease. Social workers also provide support to care giver and family members. Home visit medical services are provided by bilingual registered nurses and social workers to care for elderly who are not able to leave their home. The most recent expansion of services was to provide hospice care in collaboration with Evergreen Hospice Services. In Asian families, death is a difficult topic to discuss. Hospice care provides comfort medically, emotionally and mentally to terminal patients and their families. To learn more about the various services offered by Kin On, please visit <http://www.kinon.org/>

Chinese Information and Service Center

CISC provides several services specially designed

for Chinese elderly. In its Sunshine Garden Senior Day Care Center, seniors can participate in many activities, including health & nutrition presentations, karaoke, crafts, field trips, etc. If it is inconvenient to go to Seattle, CISC also provides service at its Eastside senior center. Seniors who have questions about medical insurance can call the SHIBA Helpline, where Chinese speaking representatives can help answer questions. CISC also provides English classes, computer classes, and naturalization exam preparation to seniors. The web site is <http://www.cisc-seattle.org/>

Elder Friends

Many elderly live alone, and many of them are isolated and lonely because of transportation difficulties, physical weakness, or lack of friends and family. If you want to visit elders and provide companionship, please contact Elder Friends and become a volunteer. You can learn more on <http://www.elderfriends.org/>

Volunteers Wanted!!!

If you want to be a friend to the elderly, or to contribute your talent, please contact any of the above agencies to inquire about volunteering opportunities!



UPCOMING EVENTS

2/5 – 2/6	YG: 30 Hour Famine (Youth Group has raised a total of \$4,047 as this issue is being printed)
2/7	12PM annual member assembly (TM/EM combined)
2/19 – 2/21	Pastor Nathan Lim, visiting from Alaska
2/19	6:30 Spiritual leadership
2/20	11:00 Ministry in Alaska and its challenges (English)
	12:30 Potluck lunch
	2:00 Ministry in Alaska and its challenges (Taiwanese)
2/21	10:00 Wisdom in Wisdom Literature (Taiwanese)
	12:00 Wisdom in Wisdom Literature (English)
4/17	Renee Stearn from World Vision
	Serving international students
	Child sponsorship



Connection Ministry —

Caring Network

Praise the Lord for gifting our church with many fellowships and small groups of various age groups and backgrounds. In order to better facilitate the connection and caring between fellowship and small group members and pastors and deacons, the Connection Committee will begin the ministry of Caring Network. We hope that through this network, brothers and sisters can grow even closer and love one another. Just as our Lord Jesus commanded us, if we can love one another in action and in truth, God lives in us. (John 13:34, 1 John 3:18, 24) Our church then becomes a church that attracts people to God.

Caring Network was established with the mindset that all existing fellowships, small groups, youths, children, deacons, praying coworkers, pastors are all part of the SFCC family. In addition to members of each group caring for one another, there will be coworkers to care for each group. So that brothers and sisters can care for and support one another in life and in our faith, and that no one would be left out or neglected, we hope that everyone would join a fellowship or small group. In each fellowship or small group, the person in charge and the coworkers will help to facilitate caring and connecting. If there are any needs for prayer or help, please let the caring coworkers know.

Below is the coworker list for the Caring Network this year. We hope that brothers and sisters will also love these coworkers and pray for them. Be considerate of their limitations, and ask God to give them strength and love. Let us truly love one another, and work towards being a church that glorifies God.

SFCC Caring Network:

	Group Name	Caring Coworkers		
1	Deacons	Tai-Chang Chen	Pastor Walt	
2	Waymaker Fellowship	Jimmy Hsieh	Elise Lee	
3	Peace Small Group	Cheryl Wei	Deborah Chen	Pi-lien Lai
4	New Vision Sm Grp	Hennessey Chang	Pamela Huang	
5	Timothy Fellowship	Daniel Hu	Karin Kuo	
6	Seed Small Group	Jason Wu	Karin Kuo	
7	Choir	Becky Chen	Pamela Huang	
8	Bellevue Sm Grp	Hsieh Lee	Chiung R. Lin	
9	Grace Small Group	Sue Lan Liou	Willa Zhu	
10	Prayer Small Group	Carol Yeh	David Shen	
11	Seattle Small Group	Schue T. Liao	Chiung R. Lin	
12	Others	David Shen	Mike Shen	
13	Group PIC's	David Shen	Mike Shen	
14	MBS	Lawrence Bernath	Pastor Walt	
15	Youth Group	Peter Lee	Pastor Walt	
16	SALT	Jeanette Chen	Pastor Walt	
17	Children's Sunday School	Tina Hsieh	Mike Shen	
18	Joshua Fellowship	Shu J. Lin	Pi-lien Lai	Deborah
19	Caleb Fellowship	Joseph Hsieh	David Shen	
20	Pastors	Joseph Hsieh	Hennessey Chang	David

* Pastors (20) and Deacon Board (1) make up a caring network. Each small group would also care for and support the small groups listed above and below it.

Missionary Ministry — Pastor Dale and Esther Wine

SFCC Vision: A purpose driven church that glorifies God by sharing God's love to the un-churched and training them into devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." (Mark 16:15) This is the commission that Jesus gave to the disciples, and it is also the great commission for each of us Christians. Outreach and mission are a central part of our church's vision. For Taiwan, we regularly have short term mission teams. For the Seattle area, we have begun several outreach ministries. For other places overseas, we financially support several missionaries each year.

So that we can all get to know the missionaries we support, as well as their ministry around the world, we will be introducing each one of them in the upcoming newsletters.



In this month's issue, we introduce to you Pastor Dale and Esther Wine.



In 1989, when the Wines first visited SFCC and preached, Pastor Dale's fluent Taiwanese left a deep impression on every one. How could a Caucasian American speak such fluent Taiwanese? It turns out that several decades prior, due to God's calling, Pastor and Mrs. Wine went from the U.S. to Taiwan to be missionaries to the locals. They put in a lot of hard work to learn the native dialect, and lived in Taiwan for some twenty years. All 4 of their children grew up in Taiwan.

In addition to their gift of languages, the Wines' love for God and people, and their burden and desire to share the gospel deeply moved us. This was why they spent a lifetime preaching the good news of Jesus in Taiwan, India, Bulgaria, Albania and other places.

Though the Wines currently reside in Lynden, WA, they still return to Taiwan every year. This coming April, they plan to co-work with a gospel center in Taiwan for several months. In autumn, they plan to visit both a church they had started in Albania, and a gospel radio station that was established. More than overseas mission ministries, they frequently preach in Chinese and American churches in WA and Vancouver B.C.

Despite the 2 hour drive from their home to SFCC, the Wines still made time in their schedule to speak at our church and to share about their oversea mission ministries. May God continue to bless their serving.

88 Typhoon (Morakot) Rescue Volunteer: A Journal Everyone Wants to Return Home by Shu-Wen Chiang

For the 2009 Christmas Eve service at my church, Taipei Eastgate Presbyterian Church, the pastor asked me to be in charge of a time of prayer during the service. In preparing for the prayer, it naturally came to my mind to pray for the victims of Typhoon Morakot and the ensuing flood; that God's grace and mercy would be upon them so that the victims can truly have a peaceful Christmas Eve.

Departing for the disaster area

After the flood, I took leave from work to go south to Linbian in order to help clean up the disaster area. I participated in The Presbyterian Church in Taiwan's (PCT) disaster relief effort. They employed a very agile system, where as soon as the number of volunteers was large enough for a team, PCT would appoint one of the volunteers to be the leader and send the team to the disaster area. I was one that led 6 other volunteers. My husband had initially prepared to go as well, but being in charge of PCT's disaster relief web site, he had to stay in the office to frequently update the information. In this disaster relief, the people and non-government organizations went ahead of the federal

(to be continued on page 3)

(continued from page2)

government. For instance, Taiwan High Speed Rail provided disaster relief shuttles, and Taipei Train Station set up special counters to process reservations for trains to the disaster area. Their service was friendly and efficient.

Once in Pingtung, we joined the volunteers from the Taichung, Tainan, and Kaohsiung college centers, and we all stayed in the Pingtung Mission Center. Though the volunteers had never met before, we all slept next to each other on the floor in two rooms, one for male and one for female. Every night before sleep, we would have a prayer meeting to pray for the victims together.

Every morning, we took shuttles to Nanchou Presbyterian Church. After picking up equipment, we would be directed to locations where we would serve. The women of the church came early in the morning to prepare meals. Before noon, they would have lunch ready and would deliver lunch boxes to different volunteering stations. In the evening, after a day of service, we would also return to Nanchou Church to have dinner.

Wanting to cry

The ride to Linbian was flanked by the work of post-flood rebuilding. After entering Linbian city, the situation got worse. The typhoon had passed 10 days ago, yet most streets were still flooded up to the knee. Houses along the streets were filled with water and mud. Because they are situated lower, houses in the alley fared even worse. We treaded through standing water to arrive at the house we adopted. Though we vowed to clean up the house in 3 days, the reality proved it impossible. Seeing the damage done to the house, if it were mine, I would break down in tears. It would take me at least 3 days to regain enough strength and courage to start rebuilding. Seeing the house so ruined by flood water and mud, I'd rather tear it down and rebuild from scratch. (see picture 1 & 2)

Let's do it together

Regardless of religious affiliation or which non-government organization they were with, all the volunteers helped tremendously, going door to door asking if the residents needed any help. The volunteers were often alongside teams of soldiers, who were also major contributors to the rebuilding effort. I even witnessed an army soldier lifting an injured resident unto his shoulders and jogging to the medical station to seek help. (see picture 3 & 4)

We seldom heard the victims complain. They'd just be cleaning up quietly, and were extremely polite to the helping volunteers and soldiers. The simple goodness of country folk permeated their speech and actions. I did not see any victims ordering volunteers or soldiers around, despite rumors of such behavior on the Internet. (see picture 5 & 6)

There was a home in an alley which belonged to an old couple. Because of the home's higher elevation, the flood water and mud had already been swept out, and the work of cleaning off furniture had begun. Seeing the two elderly bending their backs to move and wash the furniture, our captain asked me to stay and help. The grandpa said "we can do this ourselves. There are many people whose homes are still flooded with mud. They need help more than we do. You should go help them instead!"

The three days passed by very quickly. Some of us had to return to our jobs, but some decided to stay. A few people went back to work for a few days, then took days off from work to come back to volunteer in Linbian.

I want to go home

I heard that by now, the recovery of Linbian and other afflicted areas is almost complete. My concerned heart may be comforted somewhat. But for some aboriginal villages situated in the mountains, rebuilding is very difficult. Many of the residents face the possibility of relocation. The Dashe village of the Paiwan people is one example. I had been to Dashe three times before the disaster, and lived in the stone houses that villagers had built. We went fishing and outing near the creek, and barbequed on sheets of stone. Right before this Christmas, I met a young man from Dashe. He said that all that I remember from Dashe is no longer there. The whole village had been evacuated. Like residents from many other villages, the villagers from Dashe were negotiating with the government about relocation.

The main focus for the natives' protest is not about relocation, but that the central government handled the process in a coarse manner. The government's solution was to unilaterally assign the villagers a place and housing. But this neglects the villagers' connection to their land, as well as their cultural heritage that is intertwined with their surroundings.

When my husband was designing the cover for the PCT's flood commemoration publication, the title on it was "I want to go home!" For the first time I felt that words could cut like a sword into the heart. Behind those words was the aboriginals' desire to return to their homes, which were no longer present or accessible. When most victims of flatland have cleaned up their homes and finished rebuilding, our aboriginal brothers and sisters are still seeking their way home. Helping them to return and rebuild their homes,



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 4



Picture 5



Picture 6

or to come up with reasonable relocation alternatives is a goal that we should strive for; which is also the objective of PCT's rebuilding plan.

Note: To see information relevant to the rebuilding effort, please go to <http://www.pct.org.tw/typhoon/>

Couple of more pictures to share:



Many high school and college students volunteered to help. This gave me tremendous hope for Taiwan's future. My nephews and nieces also organized volunteer teams and went south to help twice.



After digging dirt and mud for a whole morning, many of us were exhausted after lunch. Here you see some napping.

** The author worshipped and served in SFCC 15 years ago when she was studying in the U.S. She is now the Executive Secretary of the Asian Church Women's Conference.

SFCC will continue to accept your donations. Please make the check payable to Seattle Formosan Christian Church (or SFCC), and in the memo note that it's for "8/8 disaster" or "typhoon relief." You can mail the donation to:

Charity Committee
Seattle Formosan Christian Church
333 NE 76th Street Seattle, WA 98115

Please also include your name, address, phone number or email address, so that we can mail your charitable donation receipt to you. If you have any questions, please contact us at (206) 522-8084, or at info@seattlefcc.org

Thank you for your love and your support. May God bless you abundantly!