August

2020

Edition

In This Issue:

*Reflections from   
our Senior Warden…..P 1*

*Announcements…...P 2-3*

*Reflections from  
Fr. David Ota ….....….P 4*

*Desk of Rev.  
Karen Swanson.......P 5-6*

*Reflections from   
our Junior Warden...P 7-8  
  
Youth Ministry….…....P 9  
  
Hymns   
for August…….....P 10-11  
  
The Vestry……….....P 12  
  
Outreach……......P 13-14*

*Sea Breeze   
School News....….…P 15  
  
Editor’s Corner….....P 16*

*Birthdays &   
Anniversaries….…..P 17*

**Editor**

*Yvonne Sidell*



The Ambrosian

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church

900 Edgewater Boulevard, Foster City, California 94404

***Individual Highlights:***

Inside Story 2

Inside Story 3

Inside Story 4

Inside Story 5

Inside Story 6

Inside Story 7

Last Story 8

***Special Interest Articles:***

• Add a highlight or your point of interest here.

• Add a highlight or your point of interest here.

• Add a highlight or your point of interest here.

Dear Members and Friends of St. Ambrose Episcopal,

**Thank you to Father David for giving our parish the best twenty-three years.** He has lived the Blessing (*Life is short and we do not have much to gladden the hearts of those who walk the way with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind)* as he baptized, confirmed, married, blessed, and buried us. He has also guided our children and youth, comforted and supported us, and blessed our animals, all while being a unifying presence in our diverse parish and community. He has worked collaboratively with Sea Breeze School maintaining a strong relationship with the staff and students and in doing so, helped create a very high-quality preschool education for many children in our community. He has also been a leader in saving our environment by installing solar panels on the church. As he begins this next chapter in his journey, we wish all the best.

A huge THANK YOU to Shelley Keefe who did the most amazing job of putting together a wonderful event to celebrate Father David’s ministry with us. Her planning and attention to all the details gave us all an opportunity to express our appreciation for all the wonderful years we had together. Shelley organized the ceremony after the service, the Zoom Coffee Hour, and the reception in the parking lot, so we could drive through and say our goodbyes. *All this while observing the pandemic restrictions.* Thank you so much Shelley. If for any reason you missed the event, be sure to go to our website and view it all.

As we move on, we are very grateful that The Rev. Karen Swanson will be with us through the middle of August to help us with our transition. We will be so sorry to say goodbye to her at that time.

The Reverend Canon Shane Scott-Hamblen has accepted the position of Interim Rector and will be joining us in mid-August. The Vestry interviewed Father Shane in mid-July and was very impressed with his extensive experience and very happy when he agreed to come to St. Ambrose and lead us through our transition. Please welcome him to our community.

Yours,

April Cherrington

# Reflections from our Senior Warden

Announcements

**Blessings on their Journey**

Randy Jew, Katherine Ozeki-Jew and their children Cameron and Sydney Jew are relocating to the larger Dallas area, as Katherine will be doing an internship at a hospital there. Their new address is:

[779 Pelican Lane](https://www.google.com/maps/search/779+pelican+lane+Coppell?entry=gmail&source=g)

Coppell, Texas 75019

Email: [randyjew@gmail.com](mailto:randyjew@gmail.com); [kozeki21@gmail.com](mailto:kozeki21@gmail.com)

Michelle and James Kimmins and their children Sofia and Logan are relocating to Pleasant Hill, California. Their new address is:

483 Ridgeview Court

Pleasant Hill, California 94523

Email: [michelle.kimmins@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.kimmins@gmail.com) Phone: (415) 279-9512

We ask God’s blessings upon both of these families and give thanks for them in the life of St. Ambrose. *Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk the way with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. The blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you always. Amen.*

**Mark Your Calendars**

Virtual Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Liturgy of the Word from the Holy Eucharist: Rite II, Presider & Preacher, the Rev. Karen Swanson: **Sunday,** **August 2, 10:00 a.m.,** YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfCRkqxS1Ii-yYov5kMpvDg>

Virtual Zoom Coffee Hour: **Every Sunday, 11:30 a.m.** To be invited, contact Shelley Keefe at [onyourtoz@gmail.com](mailto:onyourtoz@gmail.com) or 650-787-7614

Virtual Zoom Youth Group Meeting: **Sundays, August 2 & 9, 4:00 p.m.** To be invited, contact the Rev. Karen Swanson at [karen.2.swanson@gmail.com](mailto:karen.2.swanson@gmail.com) or 650-200-8449. Also **Sundays, August 16 and going forward, 4:00 p.m.** To be invited, contact Daniel Tate at [dtate@ses.cdsp.edu](mailto:dtate@ses.cdsp.edu) or 650-799-7084

Inquirer’s Class for Youth Ministry: Zoom Meeting **Wednesdays, August 5, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** For more information contact the Rev. Karen Swanson [karen.2.swanson@gmail.com](mailto:karen.2.swanson@gmail.com) or call 650-200-8449

Virtual Tenth Sunday after Pentecost: Liturgy of the Word from the Holy Eucharist: Rite II, Presider, the Rev. Karen Swanson, Preacher and Presider (her final service); Presentation by the Inquirer’s Class (Michael Chang, Oliver Moriarty and Elliott Dun): **August 9, 10:00 a.m.** YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfCRkqxS1Ii-yYov5kMpvDg>

Announcements (continued)

Monday Zoom Bible Study Group: **Mondays, August 10 & 24, 7:00 p.m.** To be invited please contact Warren Wong at [wwong@nd.edu](mailto:wwong@nd.edu)

The Rev. Karen Swanson’s Last Day at St. Ambrose: **Saturday, August 15**

Virtual Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: Liturgy of the Word from the Holy Eucharist: Rite II, the Rev. Canon Shane Scott-Hamblen, Presider & Preacher: **August 16, 10:00 a.m.** YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfCRkqxS1Ii-yYov5kMpvDg>

Zoom School Board Meeting: **Tuesday, August 18, 7:00 p.m.** To be invited please contact April Cherrington at [aprilcherrington@gmail.com](mailto:aprilcherrington@gmail.com) or call 650-574-7449

Virtual Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: Liturgy of the Word from the Holy Eucharist: Rite II, the Rev. Canon Shane Scott-Hamblen, Presider & Preacher: **August 23, 10:00 a.m.** YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfCRkqxS1Ii-yYov5kMpvDg>

Zoom Buildings and Grounds Meeting: **Wednesday, August 26, 6:00 p.m.** To be invited, please contact Jim Neubert at [jneubert5@gmail.com](mailto:jneubert5@gmail.com) or call 650-759-9468

Zoom Vestry Meeting: **Wednesday, August 26, 7:00 p.m.** To be invited, contact April Cherrington at [aprilcherrington@gmail.com](mailto:aprilcherrington@gmail.com) or call 650-574-7449

Virtual Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Liturgy of the Word from the Holy Eucharist: Rite II, the Rev. Canon Shane Scott-Hamblen, Presider & Preacher: **August 30, 10:00 a.m.,** YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfCRkqxS1Ii-yYov5kMpvDg>

Diocesan Convention: **Friday, October 16, 2:00 to 8:30 p.m., Saturday, October 17, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.,** Grace Cathedral

Harvest Festival Dinner: **Saturday, October 24** **(CANCELLED)**

# Reflections from Father David Ota

Dear Members and Friends of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church,

**Aloha! Thank you for the wonderful celebration of our ministry together on Sunday, July 26.** It was so good to see so many of you on the video tribute, Zoom or during the drive-thru in the parking lot. Thanks to the Vestry who organized the day of celebration.

Thank you for the many gifts that you have given me, but most of all thank you for the gift of sharing your life and concerns with me. It has been a joy to serve as your priest and rector.

As I retire, and as you transition to new leadership, now you will be in my thoughts and prayers. I hope you will make room in your hearts and minds for the gifts and skills that new clergy will bring to St. Ambrose. I hope you will all remain committed to your common life to be a loving Christian community, and that you will support the Vestry and especially your Senior Warden, April Cherrington, as she will carry much of the burden of leadership in the months ahead.

I look forward to hearing of all the good things that God will be doing with you as you move ahead in your ministry.

Yours,   
  
 Fr. David

The Desk of Rev. Karen Swanson

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am writing today to tell you of my decision to resign as the Youth Minister of St. Ambrose.

It was not an easy decision to make. I prayed at length about it. I have very much enjoyed my ministry with the youth and young adults and their families, as well as the relationships I have developed with people of all ages at St. Ambrose. Many of you have engaged with the youth, and helped to grow the ministry as one belonging to the parish as a whole, and not just to the youth leader. Thank you for that! Moreover, thank you for making my time among you so satisfying, meaningful and fun. I cherish the time I have had with you.

My leaving will allow me more time to nurture my mother-in-law Mary who has serious health issues, David, and myself. It will also make it easier for me to focus on the therapy work I do with under-resourced persons and others. I will be nourished in a way that I need right now by living a more directed and simpler life.

I am particularly pleased to let you know that my faithful colleague Daniel Tate will carry forward the youth and young adult ministry as its new leader. He has worked side by side with me since he first came to St. Ambrose. Daniel’s care for other people, his easygoing nature, his commit-ment to team ministry, and his love of the Lord are among the strengths he will bring to this ministry. Daniel is a graduate of the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and is in the process to be ordained a priest. I am confident that he will be a positive and loving leader. In addition, Alison LeBlanc will continue in her role as an active lay leader of youth. She contributes an upbeat spirit, an eagerness to encourage others, and a willingness to try anything, among other things. Our young people are in good hands!

May God bless you as you continue your journey of faith. As Julian of Norwich said, *“All will be well, all will be well, and all manner of things will be well.”*

In Christ,

Rev. Karen

The Desk of Rev. Karen Swanson (continued)

**Youth Inquirers’ Class Members to Speak**

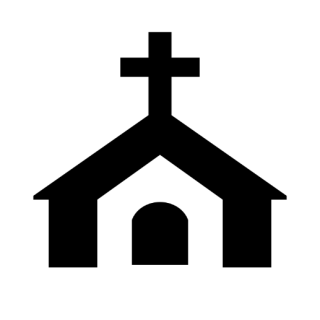
The three members of this year’s Youth Inquirers’ Class will share the story of their faith on Sunday, August 9.

Michael Chang, Elliott Dun, and Oliver Moriarty will have spent seven weeks learning about the Episcopal Church, reflecting on their spiritual journey, and contemplating their future lives as Christians when they speak to us for 3-4 minutes each. I hope you will make a special effort to watch the St. Ambrose livestream on that day!

Unfortunately because of the coronavirus, Oliver, Elliott and Michael will need to wait to be confirmed until closer contact between people is allowed. I hope you will take time to send them a card acknowledging their hard work in the class while they await the actual day of confirmation.

The Inquirers’ Class was taught by the Rev. Karen Swanson, Daniel Tate and Alison LeBlanc.   
  
Thanks to the team for its work with these awesome youth!

Reflections from our Junior Warden – by Shelley Keefe

 **Church Matters...**

Yes, it really does.   
  
This was so beautifully borne out by the amazing turnout for Fr. David’s Retirement celebration this past Sunday, July 26. To all of you who watched, listened, Zoomed, drove by, spoke, sang and played, you made this a day to remember.

When the Vestry started planning the event back in January, our to-do list included booking the venue, selecting the caterer, the guests etc. etc. By March, “pandemic party” did not have quite the same ring to it, and we struggled to land on the new helipad.

And yet on the day, well over a hundred people joined the joyful celebration, united by love and respect for Fr. David, starting with the livestream of his final worship service at St. Ambrose and his words of wisdom to us – *“…be like the mustard seed and spread the reign of God!”*

The many tributes and gifts included a lifetime achievement St. Ambrose Award, a commendation from the City of Foster City, a plaque of appreciation from the Asian Pacific Islander Commission, a personalized jigsaw puzzle made by St. Ambrose youth (who also helped make the 700+ paper cranes that decorated the pergola for the drive-through), a purse in excess of $5,000 given by parishioners, and a brand new computer system for his home office – a gift from St. Ambrose and Sea Breeze School. We know David won’t be idle in his retirement!

In true Hawaiian fashion, the gift giving was accompanied by beautiful lei’s given by the Dun family and by Deb Sakurai-Horita, a former parishioner who now resides in Hawaii.

​

The video tribute that followed moved many of us to tears. Everything came from the heart. Bishop Swing and Bishop Andrus sent personal messages of thanks and praise for Fr. David, clergy colleagues described how important he has been in the life of the Diocese and many present and former members contributed glorious musical performances. I loved Dorothy Matsuo’s story about her first encounter with a seven-year old David Ota rushing to meet his friends in Sunday School, and April Cherrington’s calculation that during his 23 years at St. Ambrose, Fr. David has preached over 1,000 sermons to over 90,000 people and touched the lives of over 4,000 preschoolers at Sea Breeze School.

Sixty people joined the farewell Zoom, from as far away as Korea and Hawaii, and as close to home as right across the street. The words of appreciation were so lovely. Next came the drive-through in St. Ambrose parking lot. By 12:30 p.m., a line had already formed and for two hours, a steady stream of cars drove by. Even at six feet distance, you could feel the warmth and friendship. Thanks to Teresa Murakami, Elliott Dun and her son Elliott, delicious Hawaiian chocolates and sparkling apple juice rounded out the ‘celebration-to-go’.

Reflections from our Junior Warden (continued)

If you missed part of the celebration or would simply like to view it again, all the events were recorded and will be posted to the church website.   
  
‘Thank you’ seems inadequate to convey what this day meant, but thank you, nonetheless, to everyone who participated.

My personal thanks to the Vestry and Organizing Committee. Each of you played an invaluable part in making the event worthy of Fr. David’s legacy: April Cherrington, Nilda Chong, Hamilton Fong, Choir Director Maureen Fromme, Alison LeBlanc, John Miller, Teresa Murakami, Jim Neubert, the Rincon-McIntyre family (David, Cathy, Lydia), Minister of Music Frank Saunders and the Rev. Karen Swanson.

Respectfully,

Shelley

Youth Ministry – by Fe Balamiento

Hello St Ambrose Children's Ministry and Church Family,

**First, a big thank you!**

I am pleased to announce that I will be adding another teaching credential, Moderate Severe Education Specialist. As many of you know, I am passionate about helping children in need. Among my favorite things to do is learning about the great mission of fighting lack of access to education for students with disabilities. I was recently offered a community-based instruction teaching position at El Camino High School.

This is an amazing opportunity that is so perfect for me, I cannot even begin to describe why. The point is I will be able to make a difference for our most in need students. Our St Ambrose kids are growing up and moving on, as must I (like Nanny McFee).

However, I will be heartbroken to leave some of the best memories that I have made here. Sea Breeze preschool teacher was my first part time job when I moved to the Bay, at a time when I needed healing. I will especially miss walking out onto the playground when the children are playing after church feeling the sunshine beaming down from the heavens, or listening to all of you talk about your families during coffee hour.

My last day on the job will be on July 31. Please Zoom, call, text, or email my work from home office so I can say a proper goodbye. I will be continuing to live in Daly City. It looks like my district will start in distant learning. I will keep Bradley, my three-year-old son, home with me. My husband, Andrew, continues his essential work as a SAMTRANS bus driver. Bella is still away at college in Rancho Cucamonga and living with my mother Florida Valentin.

Keep us in your prayers! I strive to look up and forward to what the Lord lays on my path.

Thank you and much mucho amor,

Fe



Hymns for August – by Maureen Fromme

**“What Does the Lord Require?” (1982 hymnal #605)**

Micah 6:6-8 (NIV) *“With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”*

Just before these verses in Micah, the Lord speaks with the people of Israel who have, once again, disobeyed him. They have forgotten that God had recently delivered them from the slavery of Egypt. In the verses above, they want to know what they can do to have God's forgiveness, offering all manner of 'things'. **The answer: the Lord requires that we “act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God”.**

Rev. Albert Bayly (1901-1984), a minister in England, uses the text from Micah as the inspiration for his words in this hymn. In addition, Rev. Bayly wrote the texts for 16 other hymns. He is considered to be one of the foremost hymnists of the 1900s in England. The tune, by the English organist Eric Routley, was specifically composed for Rev. Bayly's text. Rev. Routley was a minister, composer and musicologist. He eventually came to the United States, where he was Professor of Church Music at Westminster Choir College in New Jersey. The tune name, “*Sharpthorne*”, is the name of a small village in England, near where Rev. Routley grew up.

The words of the hymn are very applicable to the current time. In every verse of the hymn, the response to the question: “What does the Lord require?” (no matter if one is 'merchant, worker, king')- Christ's grace will give us strength to “do justly, in mercy we'll humbly walk with God.” May the grace of God be with each of us as we try to live out the message of this hymn.

I am including two recordings. One is of the hymn as found in the **1982 Hymnal**, #605. The other is an anthem based on this text by the American composer John Ness Beck (1930-1987) “*Offertory*”.

<https://youtu.be/pbthcrhrrOU--> the hymn

<https://youtu.be/-t0YcbCMlS4--> anthem

(If you have a hymn request for this space, please contact Maureen Fromme ([mhfromme@yahoo.com](mailto:mhfromme@yahoo.com)) or call 415.990.6758)

Hymns for August (continued)

Some information in the above article was researched from “*Old Testament Lectionary*” notes by Rev. Grant-Henderson of Australia.

1. What does the Lord require  
for praise and offering?  
What sacrifice desire,  
or tribute bid you bring?  
Do justly; love mercy;  
walk humbly with your God.  
  
2. Rulers of earth, give ear!  
Should you not justice show?  
Will God your pleading hear,  
while crime and cruelty grow?  
Do justly; love mercy;  
walk humbly with your God.  
  
3. Still down the ages ring  
the prophet's stern commands.  
To merchant, worker, king  
he brings God's high demands.  
Do justly; love mercy;  
walk humbly with your God.  
  
4. How shall my soul fulfill  
God's law so hard and high?  
Let Christ endue our will  
with grace to fortify.  
Then justly, in mercy  
we'll humbly walk with God.

Thank you,

Maureen

The Vestry – by Jim Neubert

**Imagining our New St. Ambrose – How you can help**

In the last few weeks, we sent you a **Congregational Survey** by way of **Survey Monkey**.

We have received several replies, but not as many as were sent out. If you were one of those who did not reply, we ask you to.

If you can find that email, please send it back to St. Ambrose after you have filled it out. Otherwise, email Jim Neubert at [Jneubert5@gmail.com](mailto:Jneubert5@gmail.com) and ask for the survey to be provided to you. Perhaps it went into your spam or perhaps you were left off the list.

The Congregational Survey will be studied to initiate new ways of gathering, for worship or for satellite groups – smaller gatherings, like the fellowship dinners or Ohana Circles. We intend to maintain our connections and friendships while also being careful to follow county and state health guidelines as long as they remain in place during this pandemic.

With some of the ways we have learned, and with a new Interim Rector, we should be able to innovate and reinvent our faith community. As a caring community, we want to remain in mutual support of each other both in the church building and away from the church building. We have begun to learn new ways and the Survey has provided a lot of new ideas. **Please send it in!**

Thank you,

Jim

August Outreach Report – by Steve Yuen

A couple of people that are standing in the grass

Description automatically generated  
Father Ota has been an advocate and counsellor for every aspect of church life, and none more so than our Outreach ministry.

Not only has he been an active participant in many of our programs—preparing dinners for Home and Hope, baking lasagna for Sandwiches on Sunday, saying a prayer for pets and owners at the Blessing of the Animals, visiting elder-care facilities, to name but a few---but he also was the driving force behind our support of the United Nations’ [Millennium Development Goals](https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/) that seek to improve the lives of the world’s poorest people.

*2010 Blessing of the Animals*

Because of his insistence that we must help those outside of our local community and our nation, St. Ambrose is today a regular contributor to the [Cambodia Academy at Mongkol Borei](https://www.cambodiaacademy.org/), the [Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance](https://www.thegaia.org/about-gaia-2/mission-and-history/), and the [Heifer Project](https://www.heifer.org/).

A person reading a book

Description automatically generatedWe will greatly miss his leadership and wish him and his family Godspeed in the next chapter of their lives.

On a personal note, I knew Karen Swanson before I met David Ota. Karen was the Rector at Honolulu’s Church of the Epiphany, which was my wife Belinda’s home parish and where we were married in 1975. No, Karen did not preside over our wedding (do the math!), but we did see her on regular trips to visit family.

*2011: Caroling with centenarian Grace Belsky*

Shortly after David, Karen, and Paul moved to Foster City in 1997, Father Ota began to send us letters inviting us to church. It wasn’t a hard push because of our previous connection in Hawaii and because of our friendship with old-timers in the congregation.

For us, it would be the *second* period in our lives that we would be members of St. Ambrose. The first was when we moved to Foster City in 1979. We came to know the Reverend Richard Rowe, the minister who laid the groundwork for both St. Ambrose and Sea Breeze School, and many of the first-generation members of the congregation. Shortly after Richard left, we moved to another church on the Peninsula.

This rambling story has a point: Father Rowe left St. Ambrose to become the Rector of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Honolulu. One hundred years ago, my grandparents helped found St. Peter’s, which is my own home parish. The calls to Father Ota, the new priest with connections to Belinda’s church, and Father Rowe, the former priest going to my home church, were an extraordinary coincidence, perhaps, but as our lives have unfolded other such coincidences and connections have become manifested. Always they have had an impact on what comes next, and often the connection is due to the Church.

Outreach Report (continued)

Whether and to what extent God has a plan for our lives is a matter for theologians to debate, but what is apparent to this parishioner is that God had a hand in David Ota being our minister for 23 years and our lives have been changed for the better because he walked the way with us.

For this we are humbly grateful.

**Sandwiches on Sunday**    
SOS has adapted to the COVID-19 era by eliminating the cafeteria-style hot lunches that we have served for nearly 20 years. On our next service date at noon on **August 30** at the Fair Oaks Community Center, a crew of 3-4 people wearing gloves and masks will be needed to distribute brown bag lunches prepared by St. Pius Catholic Church. Please contact Rob Richards (rob.richards@tensorlabs.com) if you would like to help or have any questions.

Sea Breeze School News **–** by Jerelyn Weber, Principal

We did it!

We opened our first four-week session of Summer Camp on June 22 and by the time it ended on July 17 we had seen zero sick children and zero sick staff members! We started our second four-week session on July 20 and we are hoping for the same success. Being open is much more difficult than any of us perceived it would be. The constant toy-washing, the maintaining of stable cohorts, the sanitizing and the social distancing are all very difficult, yet manageable. We are all in a really good routine now and are confident with the practices and routines we have in place.

Considering all that is going on in the world today, enrollment for Summer Camp has been good. We were blessed to have 40 children on campus and 40 children in our virtual camp. Foster City Elementary School will be returning to school with 100% distance learning for all of their students and they plan to follow this plan until at least October, when they will determine next steps. We will begin the 2020-2021 school year with both on-campus classes and virtual learning for our children.

As many families are not quite ready to return to campus, we have had to think creatively for ways to reach them and the virtual learning is a very popular option among our families. To further meet the needs of our families and those in the community, we are excited to be opening a full day Kindergarten program this year that will serve a total of 24 children in two different classrooms. An afternoon program from 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. will also be available for children in Grades 1-4.

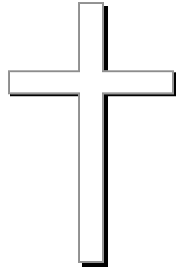
We do have some availability in all of our programs for the 2020-2021 school year, so if you know anyone looking for a school for their child, please have them contact Lisa at [Lwalker@seabreezeschool.com](mailto:Lwalker@seabreezeschool.com) for enrollment information.

I hope that you and your family are staying well during these very different times.

Respectfully,

Jerelyn

The Editor’s Corner– by Yvonne Sidell



## *“Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” –Colossians 4:5-6*

## A group of college students went on a mission trip to China. When they returned from their trip, they each shared lessons they learned.

## After spending only twelve days in a country where they communicated through charades and hugs, ten people came to know Christ, and teenagers who were stand-offish when the college students first arrived, cried to see their new friends leave. These mission trip participants learned that God can do great things in a short amount of time.

## What an important lesson to remember. God doesn’t need weeks or months to change lives. He doesn’t even need us to speak the same language. Each interaction, each moment, each second Christians have an opportunity to not only represent who Christ is, but to tell others about what Jesus did for each of us. You may only get one opportunity with a person to be an example or to share the good news, especially during the world’s pandemic.

## Each morning, remind yourself to seize the day! Don’t miss out on the opportunities the Lord has for you by running through the daily hustle and bustle of normal life. Look for areas where you see God working and then make the most of those opportunities. Be ready and be wise.

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Birthdays**

Ajit Philip 1

Ruben Neyroud 3

David Yates 8

Ashley Stewart 9

Marilyn Canon 12

Scott (Timothy) Chang 13

Randy Jew 31

****   
 **Anniversaries**   
  
 Sal & Linda Censoprano 8

Belinda & Stephen Yuen 10

Michael Radovancevich & Karin Patterson 13

Dr. Edward & Donna Avakoff 16

April & Grant Cherrington 23  
   
 Anita & Robert Richards 30

Janet & George Gardiner 31