

New Life News

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New Life is a church of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

LCMS News

Web site goes online for 2004 Gathering: The official Web site for the 2004 National LCMS Youth Gathering, nyg.lcms.org, went online April 21 with gathering information that will be updated as details become available for the July 24-28 event in Orlando next year.

LWR: Ethiopian aid critical as millions face starvation: Outside aid has made a big difference in Ethiopia, where more than 11 million people are at risk of starvation, but more is needed urgently -- \$350 million more, according to an aid delegation that has visited the East African country.

News items taken from www.lcms.org.

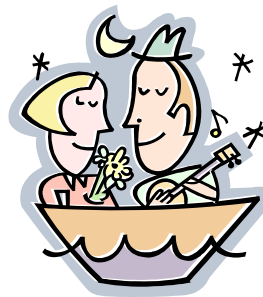
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From the Pastor's Heart: Facing The Wind And Conquering!

June is a wonderful month for weddings, as it will be for New Life member Shirley Chan and Jason Hou. Listen to the groom's and bride's words from Song of Solomon 1:15-16:

*How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful!
Your eyes are doves.
How handsome you are, my lover! Oh, how charming!
And our bed is verdant.*



These are the words of a husband and wife deeply in love with each other. This is God's ideal, but to maintain or gain this quality of relationship might be like facing the wind! Here are five great ideas I found in a devotion so that your marriage can conquer:

- 1. Express Affection.** Couples who remain happily in love behave differently from couples who don't. They never take their relationship for granted; they express affection for each other every day in various ways:
 - They frequently say, "I love you."
 - They are physically affectionate, holding hands, hugging, cuddling.
 - They express their love sexually.
 - They verbalize their appreciation and admiration.
 - They share their thoughts and feelings, learning to self-disclose what's on their minds and hearts to each other, confiding in each other.
 - They convey their love materially, giving little gifts to each other.
 - They create time alone together.
- 2. Act Like You Love Each Other.** By regulating the action we can indirectly regulate the feeling. Do ten things each day that you would do if you really were in love.
- 3. Avoid "Platonic" Friendships with Members of the Opposite Sex.** Most affairs begin as innocent relationships which, without anyone's realizing it, begin to develop a life of their own. While we can't isolate ourselves from the opposite sex, we need to keep tight boundaries. Save emotional energy and attention for your marriage.
- 4. Have Your Devotions.** The ever-living Christ is here to bless you. The nearer you keep Him, the nearer you will be to one another. The couple that prays together stays together.

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5. Draw Strength From Each Other. Healthy couples learn to cling to each other in times of stress, holding each other up, allowing problems to draw them together rather than pull them apart.

Conclusion: Face the wind and conquer! Love your husband or wife, look to Jesus—the author and finisher of our faith—and of our family.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Chip<><

“Father’s Love” by Young Bun Chang



Family of the Month: Grace Koo

古家 -- 古尤彩霞

我參加新生命堂大約有兩年多。這是一個非常溫暖而充滿上帝愛的屬靈大家庭。尤其是有一段時期沒有牧師，弟兄姐妹仍然分工合作的精神真使我敬佩。

在主日崇拜的兒童信息中，看見一群在基督家庭生長的可愛孩童，他們活潑快樂的臉孔，全神貫注聽老師講述神的話語。我很羨慕他們，恨不得能回到孩童時代。回想我小時就沒這福氣。我出生在非基督教的貧苦家庭，七、八歲就須做家務，不許到屋外玩。所以我從小便很苦悶，非常悲觀甚至有輕生念頭。



From Left: Lorsen, Eshin, Grace, Jusson

中學畢業那年，有一天一位基督徒同學告訴我，如果要尋找快樂平安，就應到教會去。結果我好奇地去了，而發覺教會裏的人真的與眾不同。他們對人很親切

關懷。後來我也帶領先父和部份弟妹到教會去。但是母親極力反對，任何人在她面前提到福音她就離開。我惟有常常默默的為她禱告了三十六年，當中也流了不少眼淚。感謝神，她兩年多前信了主。上個月她病重時，我再次飛回馬來西亞去探望她。雖然是短短的四個星期，這是我畢生難忘的寶貴時光。我與母親並肩的握著手一起禱告。她說她再也不怕肉身的死亡，因她相信神已賜她永生之盼望。



Grace and late husband, Justus

我在少女時代夢想嫁給教師，因為當時為人師表者都是品格清高和生活單純。沒想到上帝卻賜我更好的一位神的僕人---古慕音牧師作我的終身伴侶。婚後我們在馬來西亞信義會事奉了十多年。1976年古牧師獨自來美在培城 (Pasadena) 富樂神學院 (Fuller Theological Seminary) 攻讀神學碩士。第二年我帶著三個年幼的孩子來美與夫團聚，且在圖書館任職支撐著家計。1980年來三藩市加入泛美信義會 (ELCA) 其一西人教會 (Ebenezer Lutheran Church) 的事奉，並兼發展栽建華人教會的事工。

開荒工作雖難，但主的靈卻與我們同工，在我們當中運行彰顯。經過四、五年的艱苦工作，中文部有四、五十人參加聚會。他們是來自中、港、台、越南和東南亞的華人，也有土生的。可惜後來因經費不足，牧師只能做半職。他再修讀社工碩士學位，後來便作全職社工。不久中文部與西人堂聯合，牧師可說是帶職事奉。1997年2月先夫因患癌症離世回天家。

感謝主，三個孩子---老大哲信 (Jusson)，老二樂聖 (Lorsen) 和老三一心 (Eeshin) 自幼在教會長大。在主道的培育與引領下，他們三個都很愛主。他們分別在大學畢業後都找到自己喜愛的事業。並分別居住在三藩市南部的城市。

我初到三藩市時，本來可在圖書館工作，但是我須等待派職。當時先夫在教會薪金微薄，我極須工作來幫補家用。結果進讀一年美容美髮課程，考獲執照便立刻有工作。結果一做便二十年，近年只做半職。自先夫去世後，很多事情我必須學習。感謝父神對祂兒女的應許是何等的信實和豐盛，祂的恩惠慈愛常在我們家中顯明。雖經過經濟困難和其他的壓力，我們卻經歷到主恩實在的奇異。主在我們艱

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苦中是隨時的幫助。雖然經過困苦，主卻使我們常有喜樂；雖然貧窮，主卻使我們在祂裏面富足。對主的大恩大德，我們惟有獻上感恩，感恩再感恩！

New Editor Starting in July

Dear Readers,



Starting next month, a new editor will be overseeing *New Life News*. That talented person is Mellissa Lau, a recent college graduate with a lot of experience in graphic arts and design. Mellissa will bring fresh ideas and continue the professionalism in our church communications. Please welcome and encourage her!

As Pastor mentioned in his opening letter, I'll be getting married and then moving to Texas with my new husband. My one and a half years as newsletter editor has been very rewarding. Thanks to all the volunteers who write, translate, staple, stamp, and distribute the newsletters. I couldn't have done it without you.

- Shirley



Mother's Day Poster: On May 11 the congregation enjoyed a Mother's Day program of poems, funny stories, and heartfelt thanks to all the great moms in our church.

Family of the Month (Continued from page 6)

Since my husband passed away, I had to handle many things that I did not have to handle before, but every challenge showed God's grace. Give thanks to God our Father for His promise, steadfastness and abundance. Even though my family was financially poor, God gave us wealth. Whenever we faced difficulties, we always experienced God's miracle of grace. God is here to help us, always. It is God who gives us happiness. For all these great blessings, the only thing we can do is give our utmost thanks. ✚

Family of the Month: Grace Koo

(English Translation by Cindy Chan)

I've been part of New Life Chinese Lutheran Church for a little bit more than two years now. New Life is a big family that is full of warmth and God's love. Especially when we went through the period when we were calling a new pastor, I was touched that all the brothers and sisters worked together faithfully to keep the church going.

I particularly enjoy the Children's Message on Sundays. These little children were brought up in Christian families, and when I see their faces shining with joy and happiness and eager to hear the teacher, I think back to my childhood.

My own childhood was quite different. I was born in a poor, non-Christian family. I was expected to shoulder heavy responsibilities around the house when I was only 7 or 8 years old, and I wasn't allowed to play outside my house. I often felt depressed, pessimistic, and even had suicidal thoughts at a very young age.

In high school, a Christian schoolmate told me that if I really wanted true peace, I had to go to church, so out of curiosity, I went. I discovered that Christian people were different from the general population. They treated people with sincere concern and care. After I became a Christian, I brought my father and siblings to church, but my mother steadfastly opposed going. Whenever people tried to tell my mother about the Gospel, she would just leave. At times the only thing I could do was pray for her quietly. I prayed for her for 36 years. There were times that I cried because of her unbelief.

But praises to God, my mother finally accepted Christ two years ago! I went back to Malaysia last month to visit her because of her illness. Even though I stayed for a short four weeks, that period was unforgettable and one of the most precious moments in my life. My mother and I often prayed holding hands. She told me that she was not afraid of physical death because she believed God had already given her the hope of eternal life.

When I was a teenager, I dreamed of marrying a pastor because he would be a person of good character and live a simple lifestyle. God answered my prayers, and he blessed me with a faithful servant of the Lord, my husband, Justus Koo. After our marriage, we served in Malaysia for over ten years. In 1976, Pastor Koo came to the United States and studied at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA for his Master of Divinity degree. I joined him the following year with our three small children. I worked in a library to support the family. We moved to San Francisco in 1980 and joined Ebenezer Lutheran Church, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), to start a Chinese mission.

Even though starting a new mission was a difficult task, the power of the Holy Spirit was with us. After about five challenging years, the Chinese mission had a regular attendance of 40-50 worshippers every Sunday. The people came from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Vietnam and other parts of Southeast Asia. Some were American-born Chinese. Unfortunately, due to financial shortage, the mission could only afford a part-time pastor. Because of that, my husband went back to school to study for a Master of Sociology degree. Afterward, he devoted his effort working full-time in social services. Not long after that, the Chinese mission merged with the American congregation. My husband continued to serve the Lord as a pro bono pastor while also working a full-time job in social services. In February 1997, my husband passed away from cancer and went to be with the Lord.

I thank God that my children were given the blessing to be raised under the loving guidance of the church. My eldest son, Jusson, second son, Lorsen, and daughter, Eeshin, found careers that they love after graduation from college. They now live in suburban cities in the South Bay.

When I first came to San Francisco, I planned to continue working in a library. But because I was put on a wait list, and I needed to help the family financially, I took vocational training in cosmetology. After obtaining my license, I quickly found work and have been a cosmetologist for over 20 years. I am currently working part time.

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June 2003

New Life Chinese Lutheran Church
Worship at Noriega Street and 43rd Avenue

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Election of Officers 9:30a Worship 11:00a Sunday School & Discovery Classes	2 ■ Corey Chang	3	4 7:30 Outreach Program	5 ■ Ed Yee	6 7:30p C2 Fellowship	7 9:00a Food Pantry (Team 1) 3:00p Shirley Chan & Jason Hou's wedding
8 Pentecost Installation of Officers 9:30a Holy Communion 11:00a Sunday School & Discovery Classes	9	10 ■ Nicholas Woo	11 7:30p Outreach Prayer ■ Emily Tam ■ Phillip Chan	12	13 12:30p CNH meeting at Grace 7:30p Youth Fellowship 7:30p C2 Fellowship 7:30p Hosanna Fellowship at Susan Yee's house ■ Connie Chui	14 9:00a Food Pantry (Team 2)
15 Father's Day 9:30 Worship 11:00a Father's Day Program 12noon BBQ Luncheon 12:15 MMC Meeting	16	17 7:00p Nehemiah meeting	18 7:30 Outreach Program	19	20 7:00p C2 Fellowship ■ Sabrina Yee	21 9:00a Food Pantry (Team 3) 9:30a Laguna Honda
22 9:30a Worship 11:00a Sunday School & Discovery Classes ■ Michael Chan ■ Josephine Lee	23	24	25 7:30p Outreach Prayer ■ Michael Chen	26	27	28 9:00a Food Pantry (Team 4) ■ George Shum
29 9:30a Holy Communion 11:00a Prayer Meeting	30					

19th-22nd Pastor Chip at English District Convention at River Forest, Illinois

27th-29th Youth & Young Adult Camping Trip at Loon Lake, El Dorado National Forest

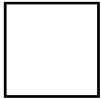


J u n e 2003



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

New Life Chinese Lutheran Church
路德會新生命堂
P.O. Box 16648
San Francisco, CA 94116
(415) 681-LIFE



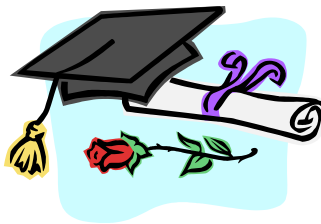
Congratulations, Graduates!

College Graduates

Mellissa Lau, Bachelor
of Fine Arts, University
of San Francisco

Dorothy Tam, B.A.
University of California,
Berkeley

Melicia Wong, B.S. Kinesiology, California State
University, Sacramento



High School Graduates

Matthew Chew, Saint Ignatius

Erika Kum, Lincoln High School

Gideon Wong, Lincoln High School

New Life News

Editor: Shirley Chan, sjc297@yahoo.com

Chinese Translators: Hannah Fox, Gail Wong

New Life News is the monthly newsletter, communicating the vision and mission of New Life Chinese Lutheran Church in San Francisco, California.

The **vision** of NLCLC is to bring the life-changing word of God to its community and to care for and nurture all those that hear it. As a spiritual family, we shall edify those in our fellowship and reach out to the unchurched. In so doing, we will teach, train, and equip new disciples to grow in their faith through Bible study, witnessing, service, and missions.

The **mission** of NLCLC is to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Our primary mission is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to the unchurched community, disciple and nurture them in the body of Christ, and equip them for Christian service and spiritual leadership through Christ-centered worship and Bible study groups.

Phone: 415-681-5433

Fax: 415-681-3262

Web page: www.newlifechinese.org