

Barbara Ward asks that the following greeting to the Mission Team be shared with all on our CNUMW website.

Dear Mission Team of the California Nevada United Methodist Women,

How does one express the joy and admiration I have for each one of you who helped make the Annual Celebration such an outstanding Event? We truly did "Shout for Joy to the Lord, all the earth"! The music and singing, with Judy Newton and Glory Potts, the inspiring message from Rev. Mariellen Yoshino, and the sharing of Communion, made for a wonderful worship experience. The Time of Remembrance with Rev. Gary Grundman as he told the story about the 26 Christian Martyrs of Nagasaki who are honored each year by hanging a yukata for each of them was most inspiring. The workshops, including origami/Crafts, the tea Ceremony and flower arrangements, and the Chair Exercises were most interesting and we all were inspired by the Taiko Drumming.

The Pledge Service, Elections, and business meeting was climaxed by the Installation of an outstanding group of Conference Mission Team leaders. How wonderful it was to have Sachi Kajiwara serve as your Installing Officer! I truly believe Annual Celebration 2007, held at the beautiful Sacramento Japanese UMC will be remembered as among the very best ever!!!

Thank you all so very much for the Special Recognition Award and Pin. The lovely scarf will be worn with joy. The beautiful quilt signed by so many of you will be treasured forever. It took me so much by surprise and I am humbled and grateful for your love and support. We placed it on our bed and we are warmed by the quilt and the many memories of each of you. I hope you know how much my husband, Phil and I love you and admire your good works. You are the best "Mission Mamas" (Jan Love's name for us) with the biggest hearts. I know you will give each other all the support needed to carry out the goals which you have established and that you will continue to fulfill the Purpose of United Methodist Women, with all your Heart and soul.

The transition time has begun and it will go smoothly under the fine leadership of your new President, Connie Hunter. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance, in any way.

With heartfelt love,

Barbara Ward, Conference President- 2006-2007