

2009 Mission Education Event Study Leaders

FOOD & FAITH SPIRITUAL GROWTH STUDY

Kae Lewis

Kae has worked as a layperson in the United Methodist Church for 21 years, most recently as Executive Director of Mary Elizabeth Inn, a national mission agency related to the Women's Division. She served as a missionary in Brazil and as a staff person at the General Board of Global Ministries. Kae desires to teach this course because "together we will look at making connections between faith and food that allow us to feel both whole and nourished. We will consider our connectedness to God, the environment, and each other.

Rev. Linda Ford

Born and raised in California and the youngest of seven children, Linda is the daughter of a Methodist pastor and her mother was engaged in her own extensive ministry in the family and in the church. "I am now a United Methodist pastor and proudly include 'Martha' as well as 'Mary' in the way I proceed. I enjoy cooking and am interested in recipes-collected well over 200 church, school, grange, etc. cookbooks from around the country."

Sookie Song

Sookie was born as Sookja Kim. Her early childhood was spent in the San Joaquin Valley. At age twelve she moved to Los Angeles where she earned her BA and MA degrees. She was commissioned by the Southern Baptists to serve as their missionary to South Korea and the Philippines. The South Korean government asked Sookie to establish a junior high school. As a lay missionary she was hired by the Korean C.I.A. to teach English. Sookie traveled throughout Asia, India, Africa, Indonesia and Australia. Sookie will teach the Korean study where she writes: "I am especially interested in teaching the Korean women; this is a transition class. Can Methodist Women of different backgrounds study and work together, sharing their cultures, all inclusivRe, for missions as we are projected into God's global calling?"

Rev. Corazon Moran-Escarzaga

Rev. Moran was born in Durango, Mexico. In ministry for more than fifteen years, she has participated in four projects planting new churches and as a pastor in three churches in Durango, Ciudad Juarez, and Chihuahua. She came to the USA in 2004 to work in Hispanic Ministries for the California-Nevada Conference. Corazon serves in the Fresno district.

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDY

Derrick Rainbow

Derrick is a Quechan from the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation (Winterhaven, CA). Attending San Pasqual High School, a school located in the agricultural area of

Winterhaven, he moved to the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas majoring in Business. Derrick moved to the Bay Area to seek a new life. He has served in many organizations including the American Indian Staff Forum, American Indian Center of Santa Clara Valley, and the Alum Rock United Methodist Church.

SUDAN STUDY

Rev. Alan Jones

Currently serving as pastor of the Campbell United Methodist Church, Alan has served many United Methodist churches in the Bay Area, southern California, Sierra Leone and Britain. Alan also worked at the Makerere University in Kampala Uganda and later as a missionary in Sierra Leone. Much of his life has been spent living and working in cross-racial/cross-cultural situations. Alan has been active in interfaith networks and has been active in building bridges between Christianity and Islam. He is currently adjunct faculty at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, teaching Buddhist/Christian dialogue. "I am interested in leading the Sudan study to build a stronger sense of community and solidarity with Muslims and Christians in Sudan and in Africa as a whole."

Nicole Kelly

Nicole graduated from Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Nicole is an Office Specialist for Health & Human Services Department. She is an Office Coordinator for ERS Group, an economic consulting firm. Her hobbies include watching movies, good food, reading books and traveling to tropical places. "I enjoy enlightening conversations about the Bible and its main character, Jesus. I am interested in leading the study on Sudan because I have a love for the continent and every country in it. I am excited about Africa and the more I learn about the residents of Sudan, the more respect I gain for their faith and resilience."

Rev. Youngrae Kim

Born and raised in Seoul, South Korea, he came to the USA in 2000. He graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. and has been serving as associate pastor at Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley in San Jose. Last year Youngrae served as the study leader on Native American Survival. "I heard that there are many areas where people are suffering poverty, dictatorship and war in the world. I knew that Sudan is one of the areas and became interested in becoming a study leader to know more about the problems of Sudan and to share what I study with UMW members.

For registration information and forms see local, district, or conference Education and Interpretation officer or log on to the Conference UMW website at:

www.cnumw.org



Current Issues Study

Native American Survival

Stock # M 3015 \$10.00

Giving Our Heart Away: Native American Survival," the 2008 - 2009 mission study theme, is part of an ongoing process to share and hear the stories of the many Native Americans nations and peoples within what's now the United States.

The study revisits much of the founding history of the United States from the perspective of Native Americans. The purposes of this study are to learn about the inter-relatedness between the indigenous peoples and their land, to identify selected key issues affecting the Native Americans in the United States and to examine the root causes of these issues, to understand and appreciate the "Give Away" culture of the Native Americans in the areas of spirituality, ecology, language, story-telling, food, and to lead the participants to act as responsible US citizens and Christians in accompaniment and solidarity with Native Americans.



Geographical Study

The Beauty and Courage of the Sudan

Stock # M3060 \$10.00

Explored are an overview of history that began in Bible times; the country's main ethnicities, religions and languages; touch points and possible causes for the wars; the way Sudanese women are contrib. uting to the peace process and to the culture as a whole; a critique of the severe impact of colonialism and current challenges; and some ways in which people of faith can embrace and affirm the Sudanese people.



Spiritual Growth

Food and Faith

Stock # M3030 \$10.00

This study is about how our faith is nurtured, strengthened, and enhanced, by food and all the ways food touches our lives.

It is no accident that our most profound sacrament, Holy Communion, is food. In this study, we explore how the bread and fruit of the vine illustrates the magnitude of God's love for us on multiple levels, and how God's presence is invoked and the divine and the ordinary connect in a mystery create Our relationships with food are complex and individual. The study explores how food can be a companion, a comforter, a quiet, friendly presence that can fill empty moments in our lives, and yet food can become an enemy, also, in a fast-paced life. It is a cruel addiction that must be managed, controlled, and overcome.

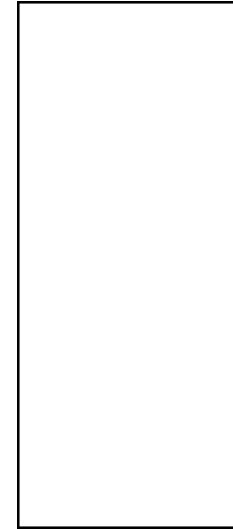
Living our faith in all the aspects of our lives can lead to healing, growth, and a deepening relationship with God. The relationship between food and faith is also found in our hospitality to others. Hospitality has deep, profound meaning for our spiritual lives and is more than a simple offering of refreshment to a neighbor.

Mission Education Event Reno NV July 24-26
One Day Mission Education Event, August 1
Merced UMC / Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley
Mission Education Event, Santa Nella CA
September 18-20

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CA/NV Conference United Methodist Women

Mission Education Event 2009

Theme "Together at the Table"

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