

SOMBRA DEL MONTE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
THE SHADOW NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2018



My Brothers and Sisters

My brother and I sat at what was affectionately known as a "Howard Johnson" eating fried plantains and fresh pineapple for lunch. The "Howard Johnson" was a hastily constructed lean-to affair by a local Thai entrepreneur and located not too far from the flight line at an air base on the Gulf of Thailand.

A KC-135 was running up its engines in preparation for take off on a refueling mission off the coast of South Vietnam. As usual, it was hot, muggy, stinky, and not home. Seems as if we had been there our whole lives. Joe had only been there three weeks, I had been there six months.

After the scream of the engine died away and our hearing returned, we talked of home, Dad, Mom, his upcoming marriage, and going fishing on Old River when we got back. I remember thinking if I had to be in a place like this doing what I was doing, it was helpful to have my younger brother with me. Joe was a solid, physical reference for who I was, where I came from, and all that home meant in a place and time that tended to undermine such things.

Over my year in Southeast Asia, I came to a profound realization that even though I was in a totally different culture, could barely speak the language, and profoundly homesick, I found so many commonalities between myself and those Thais I interacted with such as the man, his wife, and kids, who cleaned our tent building and later our dorm rooms. And a Thai man and his tenants who had rescued me and gave me shelter when I had gotten lost in the jungle.

These people, like myself, wanted to be safe, prosper, and enjoy their friends and families all the days of their lives. In those days as a sojourner in a foreign land, I matured and came to really appreciate the idea of the brotherhood and sisterhood of all peoples. Yes, even some of those knot-headed brothers and sisters in the human family that we find in all families.

~Pastor Logan

Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. Ps. 39:12

THIS 'N THAT

The **Christian Women's Fellowship** will be collecting items in June and July for *both* men and women to support **St. Martin's HopeWorks**. Items needed are hygiene products, socks & underwear, coffee mugs, and gently used washcloths and towels. Please put your donations in the green box in the church office. Thank you for your help!

The summer edition of **The Secret Place**, a booklet for devotions for daily worship, is now available in the Bloom Center on the north bulletin board. This is a free publication! There are also a few large print editions available.

The Sanctuary flowers for Sunday, May 27, are provided by Nadine Hoff in memory of Lee Hoff.

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June
BIRTHDAYS

Shelly Gale, 6-2
 Debyn Moon, 6-2
 Wanda Kennedy, 6-15
 Nancy Harvey, 6-16
 Ashlynn Lucero, 6-17
 Steve Coleman, 6-19

Mel & Gloria Rogers, 6-23

Al & Nancy Harvey, 6-29
 (Happy 44th Anniversary!)

June
ANNIVERSARIES

UPCOMING EVENTS

Church Women United Meeting
Friday, June 1, at 9:30am
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
211 Jefferson St. NE

Coffee fellowship will begin at 9:30am with the program following at 10:00am. Dana Millen, Education & Outreach Coordinator for the Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign, will be the speaker. She will update us on the NM Health Security Act proposal which will allow New Mexico to set up its own health insurance plan that will cover almost all NM residents. Over 150 NM organizations throughout the state have established a nonpartisan coalition in support of affordable health care coverage for New Mexico. For more information, contact Marilyn Stoops at 265-8358 or mstoops@swcp.com. Come join us and bring a friend!

The **Christian Men's Fellowship** will have their monthly breakfast meeting on Saturday, June 9, at 8:00am at Vic's Daily Café (3600 Osuna).

The **Christian Women's Fellowship** will have their monthly potluck lunch and meeting on Wednesday, June 13, at noon.

WE ARE PRAYING FOR...

Susan Sawyer & Bill Slough (Charlie Hays' friends), and Fred Shoemaker

Our shut-ins are:
Joanne Colvin and Abigail McVeety

