

June 30, 2007

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kingdom causes



Al hambra



Church Pastor of the month:



This month we recognize Rev. Dr. Phyllis Tyler—Senior Pastor of Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church. They are a multicultural church that seeks

to reflect the multiple heritages united in Christ. SGPUMC is a church committed to God's love through Jesus. Pastor Phyllis greatest gifts are her compassionate heart and commitment to justice and mercy. Reconciliation is the heart and call of the Church (2 Corin. 5). The United Methodist Church advocates social justice and the building of peaceful societies. 2006 World Methodist assembly in Seoul, Soul Korea focused on reconciliation: theme "God in Christ Reconciling". Reconciliation is a ministry, a theological issue and a "life and death issue" for all people. Reconciliation Among Nations, Reconciliation in Society, Reconciliation in the Church and Reconciliation for the Individual were the sub-themes. UMC is active in being a voice/instrument of God for reconciliation. For more info: www.umc.org

Our MISSION is to be catalysts that inspire, connect and mobilize people toward personal and community transformation by bringing God's hope, love and shalom to all in the city of Alhambra.

Our VISION is to see Alhambra transformed as God's people live out the Great Commission in Alhambra and as people of good faith and people of good will work together for city transformation; to see God's Kingdom come to Alhambra as it is in Heaven.

Inspiring people to pray for Alhambra, to have a Kingdom paradigm and to share stories of what God is doing in Alhambra

We pray together "God's Kingdom come, God's will be done in Alhambra as it is in Heaven" Matthew 6:10.

Pray 4 Alhambra June 2007

Prayer focus: Seniors/Elderly

Prayer points are distributed to every Alhambra Church monthly in English, Chinese & Spanish. Monthly prayer points are available @ www.kingdomcauses.org



reconciliation



just published this month. Here's a little about the book: 'We live in a diverse world filled with unprecedented opportunity. There is a call to move past the barriers that stand between us and those who may be different. Eric Michael Bryant has seen tolerance shown to those who are different than us — racially, religiously, sexually, politically, economically — and believes there must be more. After all, Jesus didn't just tolerate people; he embraced them all with love. Using lighthearted humor, engaging personal stories, and a "party theology," Bryant shows us how to love our neighbors and fulfill the vision Jesus had for the church from the beginning...'

Eric Bryant, an Alhambra local and my friend, serves as an elder, speaker, and navigator overseeing the leadership team at Mosaic Church in Los Angeles. His book, *Peppermint-Filled Piñatas: Breaking Through Tolerance and Embracing Love*, was

Alhambra Fact of the Month:

SGPUMC hosted a remembrance ("Never Again") of Japanese Atomic Bombing (Hiroshima and Nagasaki - August 6, 9, 1945) Victims and Survivors on Peace Sunday 2003. "The Peace Sunday commemoration will call for the limitation of weapons of mass destruction as well as our continued involvement in the peacemaking process," said the church's senior pastor, Rev. Dr. Phyllis Tyler. "We must keep in mind the harsh reality of the ongoing violence in Iraq, the Holy Land, Iran, Europe, East and Southeast Asia and Africa," she added.

My dear friend Pauline Wallace writes: "Could not the Kingdom be the restoration of our relationship with God and therefore one another as a creation; a restoration that allows us to be the humans we were meant to be here and now? The Kingdom of God is here. NOW. In you and me. The crowds gathered around Jesus for good news. They understood enough to follow him around. They hungered for words of this Kingdom of God."

This is what we, the Church have to offer. This is good news, this is reconciliation. There are stories of reconciliation happening everywhere in Alhambra. People restored to relationship with God, marriages and families reconciled, ethnic groups reconciled, relationships restored. This is the Kingdom of God. Are you living the stories? Are you sharing the stories? Reconciliation is our call as people of God. God desires for us to see reconciliation happening daily, for love to be demonstrated and patience to be shown to our neighbors, those we work with, our friends and families, etc. God is not just concerned that we have the right theology but the life-ology to match. Reconciliation is our call!

Position, power, public presence, and even payment no longer seemed as important as people. We need to see others with God's eyes and be willing to change how we live in order to serve and love those with whom we disagree or those we have even historically disliked.—Eric Bryant (Peppermint-filled Piñatas)

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Connecting the Church and engaging the Church and City

Mandarin Baptist Church was recognized by the Alhambra City Council on April 23rd (and the details about the event were published in the June 2007 *Around Alhambra*) for their service to the community and participation in the recent annual Chinese New Year Fun Fair. Members of the congregation accepted the special recognition by sending their men's choir to sing before the council and other audience members. Thanks to MBCLA for their faithfulness to God's call to be a witness of hope, love and reconciliation in Alhambra and for connecting with the City.

## Prayer Requests:



Please pray for the Kingdom Causes Alhambra Board: Winnie, Debbie, Gisella, Khiem, Nestor, Richard and Dennis.

Please pray for a unified prayer movement for Alhambra.

Praise God, we have an intern who will start September 2007 and a volunteer who will be working with us through the summer. Please pray for a volunteer who can give 1-2 hours/week for admin. tasks.

Praise God for the opportunity Mary had to preach on the book of Philemon and share about Kingdom Causes Alhambra at 1st UMC Alhambra on 6/24.

Please pray for Mary who will be the English speaker at (Alhambra) Chinese Life Lutheran Church's summer conference July 20-22.

Please pray for prayer and financial partners: for an expanded ownership of God's work in Alhambra.

## Contact info:

### Kingdom Causes Alhambra



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Kingdom Causes is a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit community mobilizing organization.

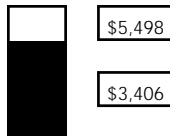
## Upcoming Events and Opportunities to Serve

- **Alhambra Day @ LA Dodgers Game** at Dodger Stadium. (LA Dodgers vs. Colorado Rockies) on Friday, August 17th 7:30 pm. Limited tickets available!! To purchase tickets: email Mary: [mary@kingdomcauses.org](mailto:mary@kingdomcauses.org) Tickets \$10/each with part of proceeds benefiting the Heart Institute - Children's Hospital Los Angeles). Cash or check accepted (made payable to Alhambra Chamber of Commerce).

### Save the dates:

- **September 9th:** Alhambra Police Appreciation and BBQ at St. Therese Catholic Church. This is our opportunity to thank the PD for all of their service to our community.
- **October 28th:** Hallelujah Harvest Festival in the back parking lot of Alhambra True Light Presbyterian Church from 4-7pm. This is a free event for all ages including games booths, costume contest, Alhambra PD K-9 unit, Alhambra Fire Department Ladder Truck, face painting, puppet shows, live music and more. Participating churches so far include: ATLPC, Chinese Bible Missions Church, Holy Trinity/St. Benedict's Episcopal Church, One Thing Church and Sunrise Community. If your church is interested in participating, please contact us at: [alhambra@kingdomcauses.org](mailto:alhambra@kingdomcauses.org)

**Ministry Advancement Funds.** God is bringing together people of good faith and people of good will to bring about His Kingdom purposes in Alhambra. We are excited to serve that cause. Kingdom Causes Alhambra is responsible for raising ministry advancement funds for the work here including staff salaries and local program funds. The monthly budget is \$5,498. With individuals, local churches (ATLPC, Chinese Bible Missions Church, Emmaus Lutheran Church, 1st Baptist Church and 1st Methodist Foundation) and businesses we have on the team already, we are at \$3,406/month. We are fully operational but not fully funded yet. *Would you please prayerfully consider joining the monthly partner/support team? Thank you!*



## Mobilizing people around key Kingdom issues

**Emergency Preparedness**—The City of Alhambra's Police Department and Fire Department hosted a forum on emergency preparedness June 5, 6 and 7th in the Alhambra City Council Chambers. The panel presenters included representatives from the Gas Company, the Red Cross, the School District, Cal Tech, Alhambra Hospital, Los Angeles Animal Services and the Faith Community. Mary Glenn had the opportunity on all 3 nights to talk about what is being done to prepare and mobilize the faith community of Alhambra. The Faith Community continues to participate in monthly training, relationship building and preparation for local Alhambra Churches. This task force is led by Alhambra Police Chaplains Phil Hilliard and Mary Glenn.

**Mental Health**—The mental health task force continues to be a needed resource for Alhambra. Their first goal is to serve the faith community in providing resources, training and support. This task force is led by Dr. Christine Wong.

**Youth**—We are discussing the possibility of forming a youth task force, to bring together all of the youth agencies in the community, to seek ways we can serve the needs of the youth together. We have already begun discussions with the Library, School District and PD. **Believe** (mentoring program for at-risk youth) is planning to be fully launched by Fall 2007. We are currently selecting and training mentors. Believe Directors: John Lewis and Mary Glenn.

**Seniors**—Mary currently serves on the Alhambra Senior Advisory Council which brings many agencies that serve seniors in our community together. There has been several good discussions and ideas as to how the faith community can be more involved with meeting the senior needs in the city.

*If you and/or your church would like to be involved in any of these task forces, please let us know. We need you!*

## 2 Corinthians 5:19 -20

19 And he has committed to us the message of **reconciliation**. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us."