

# Clemente Newsletter

August 2018

## David's Discussions

I always thought that one of my strengths is “vision casting.” I guess you can simply call it “talking.” I like talking to people, most especially when we are all connecting with a vision or a plan to do something meaningful in the coming days.

So, a month ago, I was at a missions congress in Hong Kong. Free Methodists from all over Asia were there to participate. I was talking to one youth leader from Cambodia. He is beginning an outreach program to orphans and vulnerable children. He works with parents who are willing to open their lives to serve our God. They bring in a few children into a home with these committed Christian parents mentoring these kids. It was exciting listening to this Cambodian leader and casting a vision for missions work among the children of Asia. Or maybe, I was just talking.

In the same missions congress, I was discussing with one Filipino leader about some church planting strategies on the borders of Thailand and Myanmar. We talked about cultivating a small piece of land and the earnings from the produce of this land will go towards supporting Asian missionaries crossing the borders. We talked about many things, dreaming about bringing a team of Christian Agriculturists to Thailand to help with the farm. We dreamt about a ministry that is self-supporting and indigenous to the needs of the local people. Is this vision casting, or simply talking?

We talked about Asian Free Methodists going to nearby schools and campuses to make friends with anyone and reaching out to everyone for Jesus. We imagined a day when we are sending Taiwanese youth workers to Japanese universities to bring a Christian witness to the thousands of Chinese students in that country. Dreaming, talking, vision-casting. Will you dream with us, talk about Asia, and cast a vision for Jesus?

## Carmen's Corner

This past week, I attended this retreat called C3 Conference. C3 is where all these Christian schools from Asia come together, and we talk about Christ-like leadership and what we can do when we all go back to school. The schools that attended were from Taiwan, South Korea, Cambodia, and Hong Kong. It's a really nice time to meet new people, build your relationship with God, and also to learn more about how to be leaders back at your school.

I've attended all three conferences since they started it when I was a freshmen in high school, and each one has made a huge impact in my life and my relationship with God. I think it's really important to set aside days in your busy life that are dedicated to God. That's why I love attending these conferences and retreats. Not only is it a time where you can focus on God, but it's also a place to meet new people who you can talk about your faith with and encourage.

I feel God has really spoken to me during this conference, and He wants me to be more of a Christ-like leader at my school. I'm already active in leadership at my school, but I should have a Christ-like attitude when I lead my peers and those younger than me.

I can't believe I'm saying this, but I cannot wait until school starts. It gives me something to do and I really like the community there. Please pray for me as I go into the new school year as a junior in high school, that I continue to seek God, and fulfill His plan for me (which I honestly don't know yet, but I will continue praying about it). Thank you so much for all the love and support, and it was so nice meeting some of you over the summer.

## **Sarah's Sentiments**

As I look back over the last two months, I'm so thankful to God that we had such good visits with pastors, missions coordinators, church members and partners in ministry. We enjoyed sharing about what God is doing in Asia and listening to what God is doing in their part of the world.

I'm also thankful for the good visits we had with our families. As we took a trip out to Colorado to visit David's sister, Cora, and family, we realized that it was the first time Jacob had met them! So now both our children have met all of David's siblings and their families. We also were able to see many of my aunts, uncles, and cousins. Our time together was short, but it meant so much.

I'm most thankful for the time we were able to spend with my parents and my sister. When Dad was diagnosed with cancer last September, we didn't know what this summer would look like. Since then, he has responded very well to immunotherapy treatment (Keytruda). We had wonderful visits, including Father's Day and three birthdays (mine, David's, and Dad's). We also had family pictures taken by a special family friend on a gorgeous July morning.

Now we are back in Taiwan, and I find myself thankful for the dear friends we shared a plane with on our return trip and the special friend whose church we attended the past two Sundays. I'm thankful for coffee catch-up sessions with some other special sisters and reuniting with the MAK community once school starts back up.

*The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him. Psalm 28:7*

## **Jacob's Journey**

This summer my family and I went to the United States to meet up with my grandparents and travel to a bunch of different places. I barely did anything to my YouTube channel on vacation like I always have. Summertime sometimes distracts me from what I want to do, and I'm sure other people can relate.

Anyway, this summer my family and I went to the Badlands in South Dakota, and that was probably my favorite part about our vacation. We also went to Mount Rushmore, which I found a bit underwhelming because I anticipated it to be a lot bigger.

We traveled to Colorado to visit some of our other relatives like my Auntie Indi. Her husband, Todd, got me interested in gems, and now I know 100 different types of gems. We also hiked a lot near Pike's Peak.

My grandfather, John, is doing okay. I didn't get to go mini-golfing with him, but my mom did it with me instead. It wasn't the same, but it was fun. At least I went mini-golfing.

That's basically what happened this summer to me. And that's basically all I wanted to share, so thanks for reading this and may God bless you today!

## **Financial Facts**

We are thankful for the faithful prayers and financial support of our partners in ministry, many of whom have been partnering with us for 13 years!

Currently, we have commitments and contributions from churches and individuals to cover approximately 85% of our Missionary Support Account (MSA) for 2018.

If you would like send a contribution to our MSA, make the check payable to "Free Methodist Church - USA" and mail it to the following address:

Free Methodist Church - USA  
770 N High School Rd  
Indianapolis IN 46214

Please make sure to write "Clemente MSA" in the memo line.

## **Prayers and Petitions**

\*\*\*\*\* Pray for David as he travels to Indonesia August 14-21 to explore a partnership with an independent church group.

\*\*\*\*\* Pray for our FM colleague, Chris Payk, as he travels this month to a South Asian country to teach a course that will help FM pastors get ready for ordination.

\*\*\*\*\* Pray for Carmen and Jacob as they start back to school at Morrison Academy (M.A.K.) this Monday, August 13. Carmen is a Junior and Jacob is in 8th grade.

\*\*\*\*\* Pray for Sarah as she serves as a part-time teacher's aide at MAK this year, and also as a member of the Parent Advisory Council.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

The Clemente Family -- David, Sarah, Carmen, and Jacob  
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