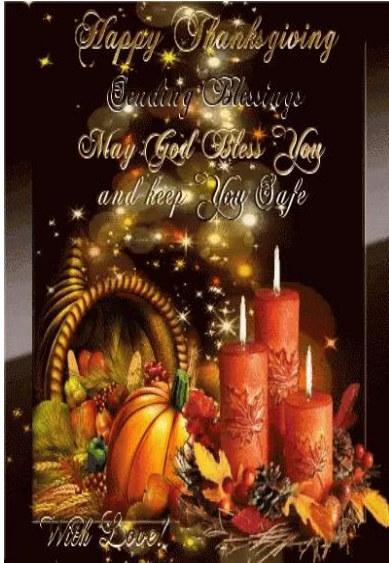


2020 FALL NEWSLETTER

From Hope in Color Purple Fund
(Jean Kim)

November 2020: Month of Thanksgiving



Thank God for keeping our family and friends in good health even through the threats of the coronavirus pandemic

Thank God for transforming our self-centered, self-serving and me -first culture toward caring for one another, looking out for each other, and helping the needy neighbors in this corona pandemic, economic and political chaos, and crises.

Thank God for our new political leaders who shall recover our democracy, the soul of the nation. They will heal the torn and wounded country to the unity and peace by ending discrimination, hatred, and division. We also pray for God's blessings on our pathetic hopeless political leaders as well to get healing from their insanity. May God thus bless us **all** to sing together, "**Give thanks with a grateful heart.**"

Give thanks to the Holy One. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. Give thanks to the Holy One. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong." Let the poor say, "I am rich" Because of what the Lord has done for us." And now let the weak say, "I am strong." Let the poor say, "I am rich" Because of what the Lord has done for us, Give thanks.

Thank God for the event "Honor God for Jean's Jubilee"



Thank You Note from Jean Kim to all the Participants:

Dear 90+ colleagues and friends, I am sending you an awfully **belated** thank you note for your participation in the September 12th virtual celebration. It was the amazing grace of God that brought us all together to this event. I wished I could hug everyone there. You came from all over the country, 30 cities in 10 States including East Coast, British Columbia, and a visitor from Korea. We had 24 pastors with us. I logged way over 94 people including the late comers who rushed in without RSVPing. Some planned ones did not make it though, whom we missed terribly. So, nearly 90 people participated.

It was a pleasantly long meeting, and you were all amazed with patience, especially those of you participating from the East Coast. It was incredibly special, a once in a life-time event for me to see so many of you from across the country. If it were not a zoom meeting many of you could not have participated. So, I say, it was an amazing grace of God that blessed our gathering.

We surely honored God by celebrating my 50 years of my life in the U.S., 50 years of homeless mission, publication of 5 books and my 85th birthday, and our long-lasting friendship with love, support, and care.

It reminded me once again that **I do not deserve to be honored.** I have not done much. It is **God and Jesus** who carried me on their backs and brought me this far. **Thus, anything that seems to be my success is in fact their achievements. So, I honor them with all my heart. I thank you all for joining me for doing that.** We honored them together.

I also honor **all of you** whose steadfast love and support and marching with me throughout many decades sustained me. Without your support, I am not here tonight. All I did was making many mistakes and errors and am left with tons of regrets. So, God, Jesus, and all of you, my dear friends, deserved to be honored. So, I say a big **THANK YOU for being my colleagues, supporters, friends, and family for many decades.**

Special thanks to Pastor Hallack Greider for emceeding for this event. Thanks to the women from Mary's Place to sing with us. Thanks to Dr. Sheryl Stohs and Rev. Luther Stohs for leading music and playing violin for us. Thanks to my family, especially my son, Sam who hosted the zoom event. Thanks to those who spoke with such eloquent words that I only could hear at my memorial service. Speakers' generous tributes with our memories made me feel extremely humble!

Thank God for carrying me for 50 years in this country and blessing me to serve the homeless community. Jesus spoke of Jubilee in Luke 4:18. Rev. Gordon Cosby, founder of the Church of Savior stated that ***"The Jubilee Vision is made real when the outsider comes inside and is forever at home.*** According to Walter Brueggemann, Old Testament scholar, ***jubilee justice is sorting out what belongs to whom and to return it to them. I, the outsider, was welcomed inside and blessed by the people like you in the United States. As my response to that welcome and blessing, I developed missions with the goal of inviting homeless outsiders to come inside and be forever at home and start over again just as I have done; and with the goal of returning some of my blessings back to whom they deserve.*** Therefore, my jubilee of immigration to the U.S. and the jubilee of the homeless mission are inseparable and meant to go together.

Thank God for guiding me to write 5 books by expanding my life every time I had a health crisis. God also blessed me to be an **activist** who could run all over the streets to serve the homeless friends. God also blessed me with **all the patience** to sit tight for hours and days to write books. Although I am not a good or excellent writer, I love to write. I have been writing all the time. Drafts of my writings were sitting in my computer files. Whenever I had health crises, God extended my time. So, I ended up editing those drafts sitting in my computer files. I dare hope that these books can be resources for people who do homeless missions, and for those who teach and preach.

Since I cannot run around to serve homeless friends any longer, the entire proceeds from the book sales have been helping several homeless missions. That is the least that I can do with my immobilized body function.

Thank God for carrying me for 85 years. These days, 85th birthday is not a big deal. Many people live 90-100+ years. **However, it is a huge blessing for me** because I have been suffering from many health problems. God kept extending my days and years and allowed me to keep on working on my drafts.

Thank God for allowing us to close the event by singing, "Here I am Lord." That is my song and my confession: God is asking, *whom shall I send?* We respond:

Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart. I surely hold all of you in my heart here and now, and I will also go home someday and keep on holding all of you deep in my heart!



TRIBUTES from PARTICIPANTS

Hearing your tributes was a very deeply humbling experience. Since they are so special that we will include some of them in each of our seasonal newsletter.

Dr. Geralyn Shereve, Lake Forest Park, WA.

Former staff of UW Campus Christian Ministry

Geralyn participated in our virtual celebration on Sept. She didn't say anything there. But she wrote the following statement and mailed it to me. So, I post it here for her.

Dear Jean, I have been wanting to read Hope in Color Purple and now I have it. I had heard from you about some of the sad things in your life, but I never really experienced them, but I became even more aware of how many joyous things in your life that I have experienced.

I remember **the home** you bought in Lake Forest Park (1989) and I visited there several times. We sometimes sat on the floor and I remember your beautiful rug. Sometimes your husband was there. He was a volunteer Director of Korean Senior Group in Seattle. I think of you every time I drive past that house.

I remember well your **60th Birthday party** at the Madrona Park in Seattle and the great fun everyone had eating, singing and dancing. It was such a great event for your homeless friends.

I felt very honored to be a part of your **Medal of Honor Award** ceremony from the country of Korea at the Korean Consulate office in Seattle. Brook and I are in the picture. I stood next to Lori Matsukawa. I wished I could understand Korean, but you told us what was said.

I attended **Sam's wedding** (1992) and **his son's first birthday party** (1994). I remember our days working together at the **UW Campus ministry** (1987-). I regret that I was not able to attend several celebrations including your 80th birthday. While my physical health has been very good, and I can still do a lot of work my eyesight is not as good as it used to be so I can't drive at night. I am so glad I know you and I hope we can get together once again. Peace and love, Geralyn.

Thelma Bulgonio-Watson, Ridgefield, Connecticut.

I've been referring to your work and now I have a hard copy to show and consult with for our community and Presbytery. Thank you so much for this special gift. And thank you again for an amazing night, only because we have an amazing God who called the one and only uniquely amazing Jean! You look wonderful at ageless 85! Love,

Dr. Steve Woodard, Edmonds, WA.

Dean of Access and Completion, Edmonds College

City Councilmember, Mountlake Terrace (WA)

Board Member, Volunteers of America Western Washington



Really, just humbling to have this opportunity to share any time with you Jean, and I know we've worked a long time to get me to just call you Jean, so I'm going to use that tonight. Happy birthday. For everyone else, I would say that one of the things that connects all of us on this call is that every single one of us can remember exactly **when and where we met Jean. For me that was in a President's office** and I quickly learned that the President is not the highest official on your campus. Jean definitely fit that bill. It was just an honor to be in that room. So, I joined this family about five years ago when Jean and I met. As you heard I'm a councilmember, as well as a Dean on campus, but really, I want to focus on the impact that Jean has had on the campus. In that first meeting with Presidents, it was amazing. And notice I said presidents, plural. It was amazing. I watched two leaders really tassel and come to grips with a problem we all know, which is homelessness, but more importantly had already moved the conversation between the two of them to how education plays a role in breaking that cycle. Sadly, at the time, Edmonds College hadn't really been doing much. But, from the initial conversation with Jean, we definitely started to do a better job at recognizing what needed to be done. We definitely were doing stuff on the individual level, but on the institutionalized level. And with Jean's pushing and from that initial time, I just want to give you a couple broad strokes of what we've done, thanks to Jean, quite frankly.

Snohomish county has benefitted, as well as the broader CTC (Community and Technical Colleges) system that watches what we do and tries to emulate some of the work. We have a Direct Service Provider now. That was initially Jean. If you can imagine those footsteps you talked about earlier. The work she was doing with students, and still does, that was amazing. That first concept, to have students who are homeless to have someone specifically for them. The College stepped up and helped in that process. To power through, I know you know the tiny homes and our connection

there, but what you may not know is we have a Food Pantry. I'm going to wrap up here and drop our website in the Chat. That's really the truest sign of how Edmonds College has really stepped up, and again, thank you Jean for really pushing us to think larger than just ourselves and our day to day other issues that intertwine, intersectionality-wise, but we've gotten grants for that. You've actually pushed us to think about how to sustain this. We also now participate in a national survey, which is a version of our census. We can now tell you, to a certain extent, exactly what our students are experiencing, and respond more accordingly. So really just as a personal friend to you Jean, thank you so much for the work that you've done, and thank you everyone for allowing me this chance to speak, and really I am speaking on behalf of the college, just to say thank you for everything you are doing. You've inspired us to continue in your footsteps. Thank you all.

Ruth Roberts: Edmonds, WA.

Pastor Jean, it was so uplifting to be able to attend your celebration. It was a real blessing to hear the tributes from people who have known you for a long time. The microphone does not work on my computer so people cannot hear me, but I can hear everyone else. It was good to hear you speak at the end. So many people have been helped and blessed by your ministry, and you continue to keep sharing God's message of love and compassion. May God's blessing be with you during your 85th year.

Margaret Kulkin, Washington State Certified Teacher

What an honor to attend your celebration! Happy birthday and congratulations on your jubilee year of 50 years in this country. I was struck by the wonderful community that has grown around helping homeless women since Mary's Place first started. Wow! Thank you again for hosting such a wonderful gathering. Kind Regards and many Blessings.

George Hurst, Lynnwood City Council member (WA)

I remember the first time I met Jean Kim. My wife, Pam, and I went to a breakfast for the homeless in our area and I saw this tiny Korean woman wearing a purple sweatshirt that said she was going to end homelessness. I wondered how is she going to do that? She was soon telling me how she had students at Edmonds College that were homeless. Education was the way out of homelessness, but these students needed a safe place to stay. She wanted to set up a small tent camp for them, but the codes needed to be changed in our city. As a City Council Member, she asked if I could help her because the permit process was not happening fast enough. I told her the government does move slowly and as I learned, too slow for Jean Kim.

We first had to have the City Planning Commission review the code changes. Jean was there and after the meeting she asked are we finished? I told her the City Council had to review it, her answer, hurry up, not soon enough.

The Council held a public hearing on the changes, Jean was there. After the meeting, she asked were we finished? I told her the Council now had to vote on it, her reply, well hurry up. Finally, the Council voted to approve the changes in the code. Jean was there, she never gave up, always there with her smile and encouraging word and as I and other City officials learned, Jean was not going to take no for an answer. She is on a quest to end homelessness, and as she has told us, we need to hurry up, it's not soon enough.

(Jean's note: Photo below is the final product of the tiny house. Huge thanks to the City of Lynnwood, those who donated funds (Steve Hong, Mia Lee, Paul Han, Young Choy, Mia Lee, Young Ja Park, Presbyterian Women/Synod, Sang Ki Lee, in total \$35,500, and additional \$5,000 by an anonymous donor, and those who completed the project after I became immobile.



Rev. Eileen Dunn, Ashland, Oregon.

Jean, last night was a great tribute to you and all your convictions. I know you would prefer to focus on God, you deserve credit for your persistence for giving from your soul. Thanks so much for including me. It was nice to hear about the pervasiveness of your work and how inspiring you were to so many. It reminded me of when you came to Korea and brought me to your church and saw how well your ministry was received. Have a great 85th. Lots of love.

Rev. Richard Gibson, Lynnwood, WA. (NW Coast Presbytery)

Jean moved to Lynnwood in the late 1970's and began attending Maplewood where Jack Wilson was Pastor. I was pastor, nearby, in Mountlake Terrace. Our congregations were working together in Christian Education, training for elders, choir and pulpit exchanges along, with 6 other inter faith congregations nearby.

Jack Wilson urged Jean to become a leader in the church and she was soon ordained an elder at Maplewood. Jean had completed her theological education in Korea and as she explored ordination here, the Presbytery directed her to take some refresher courses at Fuller extension in Seattle.

On April 12, 1987, North Puget Sound Presbytery gathered at Maplewood Presbyterian Church to ordain Jean to the Gospel Ministry. Jean was the first Korean woman ordained by our Presbytery, and among the first three women ordained at Maplewood by our Presbytery. Jean was the second Korean woman ordained by our National Presbyterian Church.

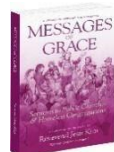
The Presbyterian OUTLOOK Magazine featured Jean and a group of Korean women in ministry on its cover, women from across the church, with Jean right in front with her purple shirt and stole.

Her ministry among us, and with the homeless in greater Seattle and around the nation carries out Isaiah's message that Jesus quoted in Nazareth: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, to preach good news to the poor, release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To set at liberty those who are oppressed and to proclaim a Jubilee for the Lord".

Thank you, Jean, for showing us Jesus as you worked among the least of these and called the church to be faithful to its task. Your ministry and friendship among us continue to be important, for you indeed are among the saints of the community and the church. Thanks be to God!

Words from participants will continue in the next (Winter 2020) Newsletter

2020 FINANCE REPORT from HOPE in COLOR PURPLE FUND



Immobility due to coronavirus pandemic caused poor sales of books. However, those who purchased some books and sent in special contributions made the following transaction possible:

2020 TOTAL INCOME (Book sales, contributions, Jean's birthday gifts, amazon royalty): **\$6,137.73**

2020 SUPPORT OF 6 HOMELESS MISSIONS (1) Jean Kim Foundation,
2) Mary's Place worship program, 3) Nest Mission, 4) Interfaith Task Force,
5) Operation Nightwatch, 6) WHEEL). **(\$3,600.00)**

2020 OPERATING EXPENSES (IRS SALES TAX, PRINTING, BANK FEES) **(\$1,600.81)**

BALANCE AS OF NOVEMBER 19, 2020 **\$936.92**

In 2020, we gave free gifts of 29 books to 17 people many of whom were the large contributors.

A huge appreciation goes to those who bought the books, sent in special contributions and monetary gifts for my 85th birthday. May God reward you for your generosity that made homeless mission possible!

REPORT on my WELLBEING

Thank God for me to live at Brookdale Assisted Living in South Everett, WA., since May 12, 2018. I had never dreamed of such a life. But fortunately, in May 2018 the price of the condo my late brother bought for me with a large down payment suddenly went up. It was sold quickly. But the price went down again after my condo was sold. **What do you call this?**



Thank God for freeing me from the shooting pain from waist to toes through life-risking spine surgery of 5 fractured or compressed spine bones.

Thank God for allowing me to walk well with a walker without pain.

Thank God for providing us at the Brookdale with 3 meals a day, weekly laundry, and weekly cleaning service maintaining our autonomy still.

Thank God for my brain function is still intact with some fading short-term memory.

Thank God for providing oxygen for me to breathe from the progressing lung fibrosis and cough.

Thank God for allowing me to visit some shut-ins and the sick who are very lonely although I can't preach any longer due to my cough.

Thank God for replacing my grief for not being able to serve my homeless friends any longer with a new task of publishing my books and sell them to support **homeless missions with the entire proceeds.**



Thank God for filling my heart with peace, joy, thankfulness and hopes.

Thank God for me to happily follow God's will whether I live longer here on earth or die soon to go home with God.

Thanks, and Praise be to God for your will be done. Amen.