

What's Happening Now & Next?

Four months ago I accepted an invitation to join the Leadership Team of Asian American Christian Fellowship (AACF). Two months ago I began raising support that would allow me to do full-time ministry with AACF. I am continuing that journey toward fulfilling God's call for my life today and tomorrow. This newsletter will answer two questions: "What's happening now?" and "What's happening next?"

Now at Bethel Seminary

This fall I am taking two classes: Pastoral Care and Transformational Leadership. Pastoral Care is an introduction to Christian counseling, its theology, and theories. The class also introduces us to field work to have real world experience. Pastoral Care has two distinctions: it is a special relationship that helps the whole person (mind, body, and soul) and it is an expression of the transformational love of God. Gregory Nazianzen wrote one of the earliest documents on pastoral care. It defines pastoral care for all pastors.

But the scope of our art is to provide the soul with wings, to rescue it from the world and give it to God, and to watch over that which is in His image, if it abides, to take it by the hand, if it is in danger, or restore it, if ruined, to make Christ to dwell in the heart by the Spirit: and, in short, to deify, and bestow heavenly bliss upon, one who belongs to the heavenly hosts.

- Gregory Nazianzen

Transformational Leadership is an introduction to variety of leadership theories. Transformational leadership is one paradigm on leadership. As the

name implies, a transformational leader transforms the follower into a leader by intentionally investing in the follower through mentorship, providing opportunities for advancement and exploring leadership, and creating a shared vision that is compelling.

It is God's timing that I am taking these classes now as I transition to my new role in AACF. I see that seminary is equipping me to care for and lead AACF's campus ministers and student leaders. I want to care for our campus ministers as long term missionaries who have brought their family into the mission field. Our campus ministers give their time and their resources to come support our student leaders. They attend weekly meetings and are mentors to the student leaders. The campus ministers need to be cared for as they care for others. I want to lead the student leaders to find their calling in God's kingdom. I have this deep desire in my heart to see these student leaders do greater things for God's kingdom than I could have ever imagined or dared to pursue.

To read more what I will be doing in AACF read the next article Next at AACF Leadership Team: My Role.

Fundraising Update

I want to give a big **THANK YOU** for your affirming words and encouragement as I transition to AACF. I praise God that he has led you to support me through prayer and financial partnership. Right now, I am at 9% of my annual fundraising goal! Your tax deductible donations will go toward ministry expenses, administrative fees, insurances, and salary. It will allow me to do ministry on a full-time basis. Please go to <http://thedentedbox.com/supportjon/> or contact me for the various ways to give.

Email: jon.aacf@gmail.com



Now at AACF So Cal Core Luncheon

AACF is led by student leaders who are empowered by the Holy Spirit and preserved by the conviction of the Gospel to minister to God's people and reach the lost. It is a unique context where student leaders can experience pastoral ministry and leadership. AACF realizes that these student ministers and leaders need to be supported.

Bruce Chow, a volunteer campus minister who has taken the lead on student development, hosted the So Cal Core Luncheon. It was an invitation to AACF student leaders to reflect on their leadership experience, fellowship with other AACF chapters, and pray for the each other's ministry.

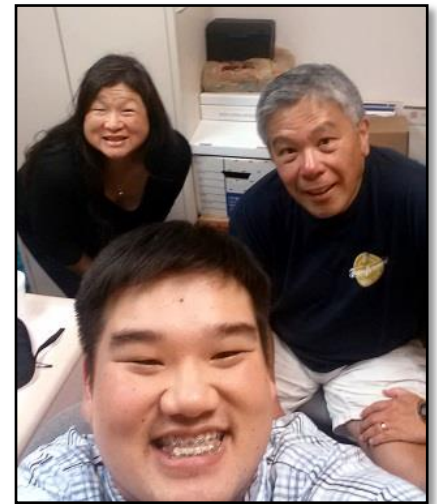


The highlight of the luncheon was the panel of four alumni: Sam Millare (UCR), Traci Matsushima (CSULB), Ryan Tokeshi (UCR), and Rachel Wong (UCI). The panel shared the lessons they learned about leadership, encouraged involvement with the local church, and shared their methods for effective evangelism. It was a great way for alumni to pour into the next generation of leaders.

My hope as a campus minister is that these students will be look back at their leadership experience and regard their time as something formative, a milestone in their Christian walk. I pray that they identify it as a season of discovery and empowerment – discovering the ways that they have been empowered, “to do good works, which God prepared in advanced for us to do” (Ephesians 2:10). The So Cal AACF Luncheon was just one way that the AACF leadership team has been ministering to the student leaders. We hope to create more student support systems.

Next at AACF Leadership Team: My Role

AACF's Leadership Team (LT) includes Melanie Mar Chow, Victor Quon, and me. My role on the LT will be two contexts: staffing a campus and pioneering partnerships with local churches.



Every AACF staff member is a campus minister. Each AACF chapter is student led and the campus minister comes alongside the students. The campus minister acts as a mentor, a consultant, a liaison, and an evangelist for the local chapter. They mentor student leaders, provide resources, and connect the efforts of the local AACF chapter with regional efforts. A campus minister also engages students with the Gospel – to help them draw into a deeper relationship with Jesus or even to introduce Jesus to those who have never heard of him. When I make the move up to LA (summer of 2015), I will be staffing one of the AACF chapters in the LA area.

My role on the LT will also include pioneering partnerships with local churches. The kingdom of God is bigger than one organization and partnering with local churches can lead to effective ministry. I believe that partnership with the local church will foster a deeper sense of Christian community for students. Within each partnership is an opportunity for a mutual relationship that will increase the depth and breadth of the gospel's reach.

As I raise support, I have been meeting with the LT to grasp the scope of the role and strategizing for the future. I will be going up to LA every 4-6 weeks to connect with the head office and to connect with the other LT members. We have already met twice. After getting a taste of my future role and I am even more excited for the new ministry path that God has led me on.