



PazNaz  
October 2016

# WELCOME



Welcome to *Transformed Under the Pepper Tree*. In this monthly magazine, you will read stories of how God is changing people's lives at PazNaz, transforming them into the image of Jesus Christ by the power of his Spirit!

Some information about specific events on campus is found within these pages, but each month *Transformed* is focused on relating stories about what PazNaz is really all about. Rather than programs or events, there are stories about changed lives, stories about people coming in contact with the Savior, and people exploring what it means to become a follower of him. It is exciting to hear what God is doing in the lives of people!

Years ago, Pastor Earl Lee and a group of staff members gathered around a pepper tree located on the northern-most point of what was to become the site for First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena. They dreamed and prayed that God would provide a place where more people could find power for living through Jesus. What began then has been going on for over thirty years as men and women, boys and girls have come into relationship with Christ in significant ways under the shade of that old pepper tree. The mission of the church hasn't changed. May it continue to flourish as people experience the transforming power of Christ.

Blessings,

B. Scott Anderson  
Executive Pastor

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*Transformed* is a magazine publication of First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena (PazNaz). It is designed to highlight the Church's stories of personal transformation. For a complete overview of PazNaz, their beliefs, and ministries, please visit the website [www.paznaz.org](http://www.paznaz.org).

TRANSFORMED  
Issue #66—October 2016  
The Magazine of PazNaz  
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# Fran Walling: A Legacy of Faithfulness

*A Story from Pastor Darwin Ng*

**F**ran Walling and her late husband, Jess, joined PazNaz in 1963. Jess passed away on October 26, 2013. After Jess passed, Fran's health started to deteriorate. In the last two years, she has stopped attending the Sunday morning worship service, but still keeps up with Sunday's activities through the online live stream. In late August 2016, Fran was diagnosed with kidney failure and was admitted to hospice care at home. On September 6, Pastors Joe Halbert and Darwin Ng sat down with Fran and her daughter, DeeAnne Tate. What follows is a summary of that conversation.

Fran Walling was born Theresa (Fran) Miller to parents L.C. and Dee, a lay Methodist family in Mississippi. Her parents attended a Nazarene tent meeting and caught the holiness revival fire. They left the Methodist church and L.C. became a Nazarene pastor. Fran was about 8 or 10 at the time.

Jess Walling grew up with a mother who was on fire for the Lord. They lived in West Virginia at the time. His mother, Florence, was converted and sanctified at the Nazarene Church. Unfortunately, Jess' father, Jesse, was an alcoholic and remained so for many years. Florence felt God's call to ministry but, because of her lack of education and Jesse's alcoholism, she did not pursue that any further. Eventually, Jesse was converted and sanctified. Florence felt a release from the Lord and she started preaching. She became a powerful Nazarene preacher and pastored churches in California and

among the Navajos.

In the early 1940s, Jess Walling and Fran Miller met at Trevecca Nazarene College in Nashville, Tennessee and fell in love. As World War II raged on, Jess joined the Navy in 1943 and was sent to New York. In late June of 1944, Jess got a break and returned home to West Virginia. Fran made the trip from Trevecca to meet up with Jess and stayed in the parsonage where his mother, Florence, was the pastor. Pastor Florence had a brilliant idea. The lovebirds should not be separated. On July 2, 1944, after the worship service, Pastor Florence invited the whole church, all 500 of them, to stay for the wedding ceremony of Jess and Fran. The reception was a picnic in the park. What a way to start a marriage!

After the war, they moved to Pasadena College (now Point Loma Nazarene University) so that Jess could continue his education. Fran studied at Huntington Hospital to become a nurse. In a few years, God blessed them with two children, Dana and DeeAnne. Later, Fran went back to Pasadena College to obtain a teacher's credential.

Later, Jess and Fran moved to Blythe, California to teach. After six years, Jess joined the science faculty of Pasadena College. As they moved back to Pasadena, they joined PazNaz. They became loyal to this church and have never left. Jess was active on the church board, taught adult Sunday School, and participated in the missionary chapters. He was loving and caring, had a good sense of humor, and was always positive.

Fran taught the little ones in Sunday School, and was active in the missionary chapters and the Women's Auxiliary of Point Loma. Fran and her friends created a lot of craft items for the Auxiliary's auctions. She also baked cookies for the young students every Sunday.

However, despite their involvement in many ministries, they would be most remembered for their hospitality. Their house had a swimming pool. Fran remembered with fondness that many young people learned how to swim in their pool. Every Sunday, different Sunday School classes would

gather at their house. Fran said she had learned to love everyone and see the worth in everyone from her parents. A good friend, Margaret Street, mentioned that Fran is full of compassion, a good Sunday School teacher, and a good mother and grandmother. She was also very loyal to her parents. She took care of them until they passed away at her house.

A dear friend, Marge Morwood, said, "Most importantly the love of Jesus shined through Jess and Fran. Fran is one of the most positive persons I know. She never wants credit for herself, but affirms others." Another good friend, Barbara Covey, mentioned that Fran is "one of the most gracious, giving, and loving examples of a Christian woman I have ever had the privilege to know."

As soon as they settled down in Pasadena, they immediately got involved in having kids over to their home regularly. They would entertain friends and strangers alike. Many kids and young adults would be found sleeping on their couch or on their living room floor. At the time, most of the teens at church were involved in the Christian Minstrels, a church youth music group. The small groups would meet at their garage to practice. The Wallings became second parents to many of these kids. They opened their home and hearts to many.

One time during the tenure of Pastor Earl Lee, the church was struggling financially. Pastor Lee challenged the church to make a huge sacrifice. For a period of time, they were to live on 10% of their income and give 90% of what they earn to the church. Without hesitation, the Wallings followed the Pastor's challenge gladly.

God has also blessed Jess and Fran with godly children. Their son, Dana, became the chaplain and director of spiritual life at Point Loma Nazarene University. He started the

missions project, *Love Work*, at the college. Sadly, he had an inoperable brain tumor. For months, many from around the world prayed and trusted God for a miraculous healing. However, it wasn't meant to be. On June 6, 2000, Dana Walling passed away at age 50. It was very traumatic for his parents. You can still sense the sadness in Fran. She remembered the weekend she went down to Point Loma to spend time with Dana. Fran had to return to take care of her parents and Jess. Dana passed away the very next day. Fran still grieves the fact that she did not stay another day until Dana passed!

One consolation was that they received over 300 cards, letters, and emails from all over the world sending them condolences. The impact Dana had beyond Southern California was tremendous. Through Dana's testimony, one can get a glimpse of the kind of parents Jess and Fran had been and the impact they had on him. Nine days before Dana was to pass, he was brought on stage at *Elevate*, the annual Nazarene regional youth retreat at Point Loma. His face was paralyzed on one side and he could hardly talk. He uttered these final words to the students: "Everyday, find out what you can do for Jesus and do it!"

DeeAnne became a nurse and married Phil Tate, PazNaz's Facilities Manager. They pastored Nazarene churches for many years before joining the staff.

We trust that Jess and Fran's legacy will continue to reverberate. Their lives embody the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

- Pastor Darwin Ng

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In His Image presents

# LOVE

WALK AND ROLL™  
2016



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1**  
**10:00 AM, LOWER PARKING LOT**

This event creates community and helps raise funds for the Special Needs/*In His Image* Ministries of PazNaz. Special Needs families, individuals, and community partners who wish to be involved can pre-register to walk or roll. There will be a donation only BBQ following the event.

Online registration is now open at: [www.paznaz.org/online-forms/love-walk-and-roll](http://www.paznaz.org/online-forms/love-walk-and-roll)  
Contact Pastor Julie Keith at [jkeith@paznaz.org](mailto:jkeith@paznaz.org) or 626.351.2485.

**First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena**

3700 East Sierra Madre Boulevard | Pasadena, California 91107 | [www.paznaz.org](http://www.paznaz.org) | 626.351.9631



# BOLD PRAYERS

*from Pastor Tara Beth Leach*

The early church was on fire; exciting times, indeed. If we remember the day of Pentecost and the birth of the early church, there was powerful movement happening in and around the new people of God. The Holy Spirit was poured out in such power, wind, and fire, that there was a noticeable difference in the Apostles; there was rapid growth; radical life style changes; reckless generosity; and incredible momentum. No doubt, then, rapid growth and momentum caused great opposition. King Herod, a king who sought constant praise, admiration, and favor, seemed to do almost anything at times to solidify his position. The Jewish opposition to the Christian movement was just another opportunity for King Herod to earn favor among the Jews.<sup>1</sup>

The feast of unleavened bread was a weeklong festival when many Jewish leaders would be in the city. King Herod saw this as the perfect opportunity to make a political move and earn more favor from the Jewish community.<sup>2</sup> He promptly had James - one of the original 12 disciples - killed; Peter was also arrested. Peter's situation seemed nothing short of grim, hopeless, and troubling. Four squads of soldiers guarded him - that's a lot of soldiers.

The Church prayed very earnestly for him.

It was another opportunity for either the church to dissipate, lose momentum and hope, and fall apart, or an opportunity for the

power of a church that hopes, trusts, and believes in the all-consuming power of God to be displayed. In the original language of the text, we see a sharp contrast in the Greek: “Peter was kept” (bound, stuck, imprisoned), but “prayers were sent.” Big emphasis on the *but*. Something was bound to happen.

The night before Peter was to go on trial, Peter was sleeping between two guards and chained to the soldiers. The text tells us that an angel of the Lord showed up, tapped Peter on the shoulder and said, “Get up quick!” The chains fell off and Peter began to walk by guard, after guard, after guard – how did they not notice? Then as Peter approached an iron gate, it opened. After coming to his senses and realizing that he wasn’t dreaming after all, he made his way to the home of Mary *where the disciples were gathered in prayer... praying earnestly*. Peter knocked at the door, and when the servant girl opened the door, she was so overjoyed that she forgot to let Peter in the house! She shut the door and shared with the group that Peter was at the door. Even though the church had been praying earnestly, they were amazed and in shock. Their prayers were *so big, so audacious* that it could only be an act of God to release Peter. And, Peter was released.

The Church prayed earnestly.

I wonder... What exactly did the church *pray about*? Did they pray that Peter would be comfortable in his jail cell? Did they pray that he would get enough sleep? Did they pray that he would get a good meal and that the guards would be kind to him? I doubt it.

The church prayed earnestly for something to happen that would not be possible without the empowering presence of God. I believe that the church prayed that the great momentum and movement of the early church would not be thwarted; I believe they prayed that lives would continue to be reconciled to God, and I believe that they prayed

for the mighty hand of God to move in such a way that Peter’s chains would be *released ... broken ... and Peter would be set free*.

Friends, what is your prayer life like? Do you pray? If so, what are the things you pray about?

Sometimes I fear that our prayer life is more consumed with our own personal comfort. I’m concerned that we pray more about financial and material goals, stop lights turning green when we are running late or for parking spots to open. And often times we find that we pray most in times of darkness, pain, and brokenness. I often wonder if we are missing out. What if we have forgotten how to pray as the early church prayed?

What if we learned how to pray boldly ... just as the early church prayed?

Jesus, in his sermon on the Mount, urged his listeners to not worry so much about the things that they wear or the food that they eat, but instead, “Seek first the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need” (Matthew 6:33). What if our prayer lives were consumed with praying earnestly for the things of the Kingdom of God? In other words, what if we obsessed over praying for the in-breaking power of the Kingdom of God to infiltrate our communities, our neighborhoods, our work places, our churches, and our homes. What if we began to pray for heavenly prayers ... things that are only possible in God’s power?

Friends, what is your prayer life like? Who are you praying for? Are you praying for the “impossible,” praying the bold or the dangerous prayers?

Richard Foster writes, “Radical prayer refuses to let us stay on the fringes of life’s greatest issues. It dares to believe that things can be

different. Its aim is the total transformation of persons, institutions, and societies.”

Dangerous or radical or daring prayers can have multiple layers to them. They believe that things must be radically different, maybe in our own individual lives or the life of a friend or within a church or institution. They believe in the resurrecting power of Jesus to take hold of our communities, our lives, and our homes.

Is your community gripped by heroin? Pray bold prayers for your community. Pray that your community would be 100% set free from the gripping powers of heroin.

Is the suicide rate in your community higher than the national average? Pray that the resurrecting power of the Spirit would change hearts. Pray that the Spirit would embolden the church to pursue the downtrodden and broken teenagers in your community.

Do you have a child at home that is in a downward spiral of rebellion? Pray that the power of the Spirit would tenderly grip his/her heart and turn his/her heart to the Lord with a sold out passion.

Is your heart burdened by the refugee crisis? Pray that God would boldly and audaciously use you to care for refugees through your own church, home, or community.

Bold, audacious, sometimes dangerous prayers ... *The church prayed earnestly. Will you?*

- Pastor Tara Beth Leach

<sup>1</sup> Craig S. Keener, *Acts: an Exegetical Commentary: 3:1-14:28*, Har/Com ed. (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013), 1867.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., 1874.

What if we obsessed over praying for the in-breaking power of the Kingdom of God to infiltrate our communities, our neighborhoods, our work places, our churches, and our homes. What if we began to pray for heavenly prayers ... things that are only possible in God’s power?

*Worship and Celebration Arts invites you to the—*

# *S*unday *S*paghetti Lunch *and Bake Sale*

*Sunday, October 23, at Noon in Gilmore Hall*



*Adults/ \$8*

*Children under 12/ \$5*

*There's entertainment, too!*

*Tickets available for  
purchase on the patio  
starting Sunday, October 2*

**PASADENA PRIME TIME**

**MYSTERY DAY**

**Thursday, October 27  
8:00 am - 3:00 pm**

If you are age 55 or better, come prepared for a fun day of discovery and fellowship! This adventure requires walking and some stair climbing. There is a minimum of 30 participants required, so please sign up right away. The trip costs \$45 and you can sign up at HeBrews on Sundays.

**For more information and to reserve your spot,  
contact Sylva Hekimian at [shekimian@paznaz.org](mailto:shekimian@paznaz.org) or 626.351.2426.**



# HOW I WAS SAVED

from Pastor Min Xiao

**R**ecently, I have been thinking about what happened at Northwick Station in London on February 7, 1997. It was the Chinese New Year Day and my wife, my daughter, and I heard the Gospel for the first time in our lives. On that day, Alan and Ann, a Singaporean couple who had been our friends for only two months, came to our apartment to spend the Chinese New Year with us. Having enjoyed the conversations the whole day and the New Year meal prepared by my wife, Junyan, we walked with Alan and Ann to Northwick Park Station for their trip back home. While we were waiting for their train, Alan started a new topic by telling me that I had a heavenly father who had earnestly been caring for me, loving me, and waiting for me to come back home. The Chinese New Year Day was a time for family gathering, but we were far away from our parents. Each one of us had some feeling of loneliness in our hearts that day. Hearing the message that my heavenly father had been waiting for me to come back home, my tears flowed! The very next Sunday, we went to church for Sunday service with Alan and Ann. In the last 19 years since that day at Northwick Station, our Lord has been blessing and leading us in his faithfulness, power, and grace!

At the time of writing this article, I have been a full-time pastor in PazNaz's Mandarin Ministries for one year. During this past year, by the grace of God, we have laid the preliminary foundation for Mandarin Ministries through forming a leadership team and establishing several programs, which include the weekly Sunday Worship Service, Sunday School, Sunday Lunch Fellowship, Sunday Afternoon Sport Fellowship, and Celebrate Recovery on Wednesday evenings. We also have established monthly BBQs and picnics,

and seasonal programs with a Thanksgiving Evening Celebration and a Christmas Celebration.

As we continue to grow, I have been praying and strategizing what we will do in the coming year. It was during this planning period that the picture of how I was saved has kept coming back to me.

At that time, I was a student in a MBA program in London. Today, a growing number of Mandarin speaking students have come to Pasadena City College and California Institute of Technology for their MBAs and other programs. Recalling my life in the last 19 years, I have not been changed much by the MBA program, but eternally changed by the Gospel Alan and Ann shared with me. On that special day I was moved and changed by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ that was flowing out from the lives of Alan and Ann.

Strategizing for the ministry in the coming year, I pray that the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christ that filled Alan and Ann that day will be moving and working through all the members of Mandarin Ministries. I pray that we will go forward in wisdom and boldness to share the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Mandarin speaking students in the community. Lord, as you used Alan and Anne in winning our souls, please use us in the coming year to win many lost souls. May you, our dear brothers and sisters of PazNaz, pray for us to fight a good fight in the coming new year.

- Pastor Min Xiao

### 我得救的见证

我最近一直想到1997年2月7日在伦敦北部的诺威克地铁站所发生的事情：我妻子、女儿和我在我们的人生中第一次听到耶稣基督的福音。Alan 和Ann 是一对来自新加坡的年轻学子，和我们认识了2个月，那天来我们的住处和我们一家共度2017年的春节。大家在新年的气氛中热情地交谈并一起享用了俊燕做的美食，新年的第一天便在愉快中地度过了。到了Alan和Ann 该回家的时候，我们送他们去诺威克地铁站，一路上我们仍然沉浸在友谊和新年节日的气氛中。我现在还清晰地记得接下来在诺威克地铁站所发生的那一幕：在站台等车的时候，Alan 告诉我天父是我永生的父亲，天父一直地爱我疼我盼望我回家。春节是家庭团圆和一个人最思念父母时候，当时远离故乡的我内心有几分淡淡的惆怅。听到天父

等我这个游子回家，我的眼泪不自觉地掉了下来。从下一个主日起，我们便开始与Alan和Ann一起去教会敬拜。从在伦敦北部的诺威克地铁站听到福音的那日到现在十九年过去了，我们的主一直在他的信实、大能和恩典中带领我们！

今天在写这篇文章的时候，我在培城第一宣圣会做华语部牧师已经一年了。在过去的这一年，因主的恩典我们已经建立起一个事工团队和日常的事工活动：每周我们有主日学、主日崇拜、主日午餐团契、主日下午体育活动和周三晚上的“全新的你”团契，每月我们有聚餐，节日期间还有特别的活动，包括11月的感恩节餐会和12月的圣诞节活动。

近来在为2017年的事工祷告和规划的时候，我在1997年2月7日在诺威克地铁站听到福音的一幕常常浮现在我的眼前。那时我是一个在伦敦读MBA的学生。今天在培城第一宣圣会所在的帕莎迪娜，我看到有越来越多的中国学生过来这里的帕莎迪娜城市大学和加州理工学院求学读书。回想我过去19年的人生，带给我生命改变的不是我在大学读的MBA，而是我在做MBA学生期间从Alan 和

Ann那里听到的福音。1997年春节在伦敦北部的诺威克地铁站，圣灵的大能和耶稣基督的爱深深地感动了我、改变了我。我知道，那时圣灵的大能和耶稣基督的爱籍着福音从Alan和Ann的生命中流淌出来，进入了我的生命。

想到2017年的事工，我的心里有这样一个愿望和祷告：那日感动Alan和Ann的圣灵的大能、那日充满Alan和Ann内心的基督的爱，在新的一年里同样地来感动并充满我和我们华语事工的众兄弟姐妹，使我们能在智慧和勇气中向帕莎迪娜的中国学生分享耶稣基督的福音。就像当初使用Alan和Ann一样，愿主同样地使用我们在帕莎迪娜的中国学生中拯救丧失的灵魂。这里，我们谦卑地请培城第一宣圣会的弟兄姐妹为我们在2017年在主的带领下打那美好仗代祷…

The Chinese New Year Day was a time for family gathering, but we were far away from our parents. Each one of us had some feeling of loneliness in our hearts that day. Hearing the message that my heavenly father had been waiting for me to come back home, my tears flowed! The very next Sunday, we went to church for Sunday service with Alan and Ann.



PAZNAZ PRESENTS

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**FALL**  
**FESTIVAL**

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**MONDAY, OCTOBER 31 | 6:00-9:00 PM**

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**GAMES MOVIE FOOD TRUCKS TRUNK-OR-TREAT**

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE OF PASADENA  
3700 EAST SIERRA MADRE BOULEVARD | PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107

626.351.9631 [www.paznaz.org](http://www.paznaz.org)

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