

GOOD NEWS!

THE NEWSLETTER OF MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CLOVIS
"THE MISSION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IS TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE
TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD."
1726 POLLASKY AVE CLOVIS, CA 93612



AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

559-299-4615 MEM-UMC.ORG



Watch for
the

Head



Heart



Hand



Symbols
to see how
these
ministries
are
targets
to help
your
spiritual
growth

Homecoming Weekend Plan Are Shaping Up!

"Yesterday, Today and Forever!". Celebrating 120 years in mission and ministry!
Mark October 19-20 on your calendar! Invite family and friends to join together in this exciting and meaningful weekend!

Saturday will be at Academy Methodist Church site:

Former pastors will be present, music, and activities. Academy's annual BBQ and Boutique will be happening, with delicious tri-tip lunch! Tickets for the lunch will go on sale in Mid- August.

Sunday's activities will happen on the MUMC campus.

Combined worship service at 10 a.m. followed by lunch at tables on the lawn under trees and canopies

Our Mega Meal Packing Event will begin that morning and go into the afternoon. There will be shifts for everyone. Sign ups will begin in August.

LOGO - Here is the logo for our Homecoming weekend! We give thanks to Ian Goudelock for this excellent design: the oak tree under which Academy Methodist Church first met. Rooted in Jesus, the church at Academy grew and gave birth to Clovis' Memorial UMC, represented in the Academy doors in the trunk of the tree and the stained glass wall of MUMC within the branches. Note the tree continuing to flourish beyond MUMC - indicating that more mission and ministries will be born from our efforts today.

This logo will be printed on all kinds of souvenirs which can be purchased in the coming months.

Cups and mugs of all kinds will be for sale soon. Any proceeds above the actual cost for the merchandise will be put towards our Mega Meal Packing Event.

Tee shirts will be available for ordering in late August - early September.

INVITE friends and former members! Are there people who were part of the MUMC family in the past that you wish would come to the homecoming? Send them an invitation! We have postcards ready for YOU to send to people inviting them to join the activities on that weekend!

The next newsletter will have ALL the details of the event!



Memorial United Methodist Church



June July Birthdays



Shoua	Yang	08/01
Shirley	Loakes	08/02
Dorothy	Doss	08/05
Mary Ann	Jennison	08/05
Helen	Tashjian	08/05
Janette	Saavedra	08/06
Kathy	Yang	08/06
Scott	Hatfield	08/08
Darren	Williams	08/08
Yer	Vang	08/09
Lucy	Gadberry	08/11
Rick	Hutchinson	08/14
Bill	Febuary	08/15
Shirley	Monis	08/15
Ozzie	Hernandez	08/16
Carol	Silva	08/17
Glynda	Ward	08/18
Viola	Nutting	08/19
Mary	Yang	08/20
Betty	Anderson	08/21
Guin	Jenanyan	08/23
LaDonna	Snow	08/24
Duane	Wamsley	08/24
Edie	Dyer	08/27
Aaron	Lee	08/28
Sheila	Weyant	08/29



Newell	Knudson	09/02
Chia Me	Vang	09/04
Cheryl	Pachelbel	09/05
Leonard	Babcock III	09/09
Pat	Frey	09/09
Ka	Yang	09/09
Xiong	Yang	09/10
Michael	Crosslin	09/11
Sharon	Cannon	09/13
Mai Chao	Vang	09/13
Concetta	Adams	09/14
Pa	Chang	09/14
Sara	Glazebrook	09/16
Katy#	Wamsley	09/18
Margee	Hutchinson	09/20
Bea	Trainer	09/20
Ruth	Ehresman	09/23
Molly	Lovgren	09/23
Amy	Potter	09/24
Judith	Barkman	09/27
Janette	Erickson	09/27
Charen	Polson	09/27
Pa	Hang	09/28
Pat	Manske	09/30

Make A Joyful Noise!

Do you enjoy making a joyful noise to the Lord? The choir will begin rehearsals again on Thursday, August 22nd at 7 P.M. and we love having new singers. We work hard on Thursday, but have lots of fun too. If you are interested in our music ministry or have questions, please speak to Sue DeFranco or any choir member.



BALLROOM DANCE

The Ballroom Dance Class is still meeting the 2nd and 4th Friday nights at 7p.m. in Fellowship Hall. If there is a dance that you want to learn ask. You do not need a partner. We rotate and help each other. You do need smooth soled shoes, so your feet can slide on the carpet. No flip-flops.



For more information call Edie Dyer at 264-4665





120,000 Mega Meal Packing Event is coming in October!

On our Homecoming Sunday we will give thanks to God for the lavish grace we have experienced through the years by working with Stop Hunger Now to pack 120,000 meals in one day!

The meals cost \$.25 each - so affordable. Yet, 120,000 adds up to a lot of money!

Fundraising efforts are already underway!

Many of you have your "thank banks" at home and are using them regularly. More banks are available in the MUMC Narthex.

We are encouraging everyone to invite friends from the community to help us make this event a success. We cannot do this alone! Working together we CAN feed those in most desperate need!

This event will be so FUN and is perfect for people of all ages and abilities!

Mark October 20 on your calendar for the Homecoming and plan to be part of our Mega Meal Event team!

Fresno-Clovis CROP Hunger Walk

Time to get those walking shoes out again. The 2013 Fresno-Clovis CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sunday, October 13th at 1:30 P.M. beginning at United Japanese Christian Church, 136 N. Villa in Clovis. Memorial UMC folk have been participating in this 3K event for nearly three decades, either by walking or by sponsoring walkers. We have hosted it two times. 25% of the funds raised address hunger in the Fresno-Clovis area by supporting the Fresno Community Food Bank. 75% of the funds provide long-term development programs and disaster relief in the United States and around the world. The Walk draws participants from churches, synagogues, temples, service groups, etc. and is the largest interfaith event in our area. If you are interested in walking or sponsoring a walker, please see Sue DeFranco.



Imagine!Band:



The Imagine! Band will now be rehearsing on Friday evenings at 5pm. If you are interested in being a part of the music or projection ministry for the 9:30 service, you are more than welcome to come on a Friday night and we can have a chat about where your gifts can be used! You can also call or text Sara at 455-7960, or e-mail at sara@mem-umc.org.

Youth Group News



Still Meets On Sunday Nights: Youth Group meets every Sunday night at 5pm in the Bungalow. Anyone who is entering grade 7 through High School is welcome to join us! If you have any questions, please contact Sara at 455-7960, or sara@mem-umc.org. We will be having a gathering soon to talk about new directions for the youth ministry. Keep watching, and we'll keep you posted!

Upcoming Events

Bible In A Year (BIAY) is underway!

The weekly readings are available on our website, and in weekly bulletin inserts.

Currently we have a class on Sunday evenings for those who want to go deeper into scripture.



Also, the Wednesday mornings Denny's group will spend the coming year discussing the readings.

PLUS beginning after Labor Day we will add a Thursday evening Study group @ 5:45 pm.

Everyone is encouraged to do the readings! If you can't do them all, at least do some!



The Blessing of the Animals and Pet Adoption event

will be held Saturday, September 28, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Blessing service will start at 11AM. Everyone is invited. Music and refreshments will be provided. There will be animal rescue and service groups attending to provide information about their organizations.

Last year we heard so many wonderful stories about how people were a blessing to their pets, and how the pet was a blessing to its family. Please come join us at this special event.



TAAG Team Outings

Third Saturday Outing: join the TAAG team on the third Saturday each month for a fun and low-cost outing.



TAAG team

Totally Awesome All-Generations Team

Our August event is an outing to Yosemite! August 17 we will gather at Glacier Point for a picnic about 11 a.m. Then, those who enjoy hiking can hike from the point to Yosemite Valley. Those who are not up for that hike can drive the cars from the point to the valley where we can all rendezvous in the afternoon. We will plan to barbecue hot dogs and make s'mores at a picnic area in the valley and enjoy singing together led by Sue DeFranco.

Please let the MUMC office know you are planning to attend, so we can look for you at the picnic site. Also, let the office know if you want to carpool - it is always more fun for the road trip!



Christian Book Club



The next book is "For One More Day" by Mitch Albom. For One More Day is a 2006 philosophical novel by Mitch Albom. Like his previous works (Tuesdays with Morrie and The Five People You Meet in Heaven), it features mortality as a central theme. The book tells the story of a troubled man and his mother, and explores how people might use the opportunity to spend a day with a lost relative.



TAAG Team Film Festival:

Totally Awesome All Generations Team is planning events for the entire MUMC Family.

First Friday Film Fest: the first Friday of each month gather in our fellowship hall at 6:30 p.m. Bring a comfortable chair and some munchies to share. We will heat up our big popcorn popper and enjoy different styles of movies month by month.

August 2: Faith -

Faith Like Potatoes

September 6: Fun -

The God's Must Be Crazy

UMW News

Aug 24– Women's School of Missions

Aug 26– Exec Board, Library

Sept 11—Red Birds, Library

Sept 17-Unit Meeting 10 am, World Day of Prayer

Don't forget to bring your blue prayer boxes for offering.

Meeting Hosted by Wesley.

All women welcome.

Sept 25—Wesley, luncheon location to be announced.



Special September Men's Breakfast

The cost will be \$10 per person and includes breakfast at Cafe Via. The time will be 8:00 AM. Please RSVP by August 31st.

Andy Hansen-Smith
President



Holy Land 2014

Would you like to travel to the Holy Land with other members and friends of MUMC? Pastor Janette is exploring the possibility of taking a group there in the fall of 2014. We would need to have at least 15 people going to get the group discount rates.

We will work with our United Methodist missionary in Palestine and an experienced travel agency to custom fit the tour of sacred sites

We will have a chance to spend one day doing a service project

We may add an extension to Egypt, if it is safe to travel there and we have sufficient interest

Let the pastor know if you would like to go!



Finance

General Fund Financial Summary June 30, 2013

Beginning Balance	-\$992.02
Income June	\$22,552.31
Expenses June	\$18,262.16
Ending Balance	\$3,298.13



After two months of expenses exceeding our income, we now have a positive balance at the end of June. This is primarily because we did not make an apportionment payment while we were waiting to see if we would come out in the black. We will be making a payment in July which will include the amount contributed by the Thrift Store. If everyone will continue to keep up with their estimates of giving we should also be able to make an August payment. At the end of June, 13 pledgers were behind by a total of almost \$4,400. If all of these were paid up, we could pay almost eight weeks of our apportionment obligation. We also are very grateful to have 19 contributors who are giving more than their pledge.

In past months, we have discussed some of the funds we have in addition to our General Fund which pays most of our on-going and anticipated bills. Another fund which holds designated contributions until they are needed is our fund for beautifying the church buildings and the parsonage. This fund has been used to paint the buildings, put in new carpet, upgrade the sanctuary and many other projects. It currently has \$5,265.

MUMC & Academy UMC



We are strengthening our joint ministry through prayer and Bible study. We get together on the first Saturday each month, alternating locations. We are studying the life of Jesus, as told in the gospels. Study books are available in the MUMC office. Our next meetings will be:

August 3 @ 10:30 a.m. - at Academy.

Want to carpool? We will be leaving the MUMC parking lot @ 10:05 a.m.

September 7 in the library of MUMC at 10:30 a.m.

October 5 at Academy UMC - carpool leaving MUMC at 10:05 a.m.

Teams and Ministries

Boutique News



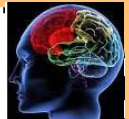
Attention Needleworkers and Crafters!

The annual Church Boutique luncheon and craft sale will take place again this coming November. The Boutique group of ladies works all year, sewing, quilting, crocheting, knitting and crafts producing various items. Proceeds from the sale go to various Church projects locally and statewide. This is about the 25th year for the boutique and we hope to make it a huge success.

Always members of the church have participated by donating handmade items to the sale. We need the help of all of you again this year who are needleworkers and craftspeople and can contribute items for our sale. It is not necessary that you attend the meetings but we invite you to attend the Wednesday morning sessions starting at 9:00 a.m. Come and go as suits your time schedule. Or drop in and see what's happening and what items others are working on. Or just come and visit.

If you have questions or need help with a project please contact Carole Schweitzer at 299-3432. And if you have an unfinished project that you need help finishing we would be glad to give you a helping hand.


Christian Education:



The children's program is on break until after Labor Day.

The Adult class continues with Bible In A Year (BIAY) on Sunday evenings at 5:45 in the Lose Library.

There will be Bible Studies for men and women in Hmong as well. The Adult Christian Education program hopes to expand this fall. We hope to offer 2 classes in English on Sunday evenings so people have choices available. Also, we plan to offer BIAY on Thursday evening at 5:45-6:45, as well as on Sundays.



Special Friends

The Special Friends met May 9th and pondered the thought "has there been a time in your life when you have felt an emptiness, and felt that something was missing in your life?" In *Alive Now*, Trevor Hudson is reminded of that God-Shaped a vacuum inside all of us, the great void only God can fill. When we try to fill that empty space in our hearts with something other than God, our lives remain hollow. Even though our lives may appear to be working well on the outside, on the inside we feel that something is indeed missing. When we seek after God and have a personal relationship with God, only then do we begin to experience true peace and serenity of heart and mind.

We shared news of friends we had contacted this month with 7 visits, 30 phone visits, and 15 cards or notes.

Closing thought from Mother Teresa: "Let us all remain as empty as possible, so that God can fill us. Even God cannot fill what is already full!"

When we met June 13th, we meditated on the amazing power of our breath. It is so much a part of us that usually we breathe without even being aware of it. And the closeness of each breath is rivaled only by how close God is to us. We are created with the spirit of God entering our bodies. Each breath is a reminder of God with us and God within us. We spoke of a breath prayer which can help us be constantly in the presence of God. Breath prayer is a simple prayer in which we repeat a simple phrase as we breath in & out. We practiced with a couple examples of a breath prayer.

We shared news of friends through 10 visits, 23 calls, and 16 cards.

We are pleased to include two new members to our group, and encourage anyone who might be interested in this ministry to attend a seminar July 27th from 2-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Our next meeting will be at 2:00 pm, August 8th.

Closing thought: Breath Prayers are a meditation that can silence us enough to hear God's voice and to feel God's presence.

Blessings, Lorraine May

Mission Thrift Shop

We did it again. Our amazing thrift shop volunteers manage to price everything in mountains of bags of donations throughout the month and come



Friday sale day everything has a price tag and the store is neat and ready to go. Thank you pricing team. Evie Weiss has it over all of us for pricing faithfully for fourteen years! Her focused energy is an inspiration to all of us.

Thanks go to Gary Gentry and Jim McClanahan for early setup each sale day, to Craig who shows up at just the right time to help, and to Katherine Dickenson, thrift shop volunteer for 17 years, for scheduling all the volunteers on open days. The volunteers who staff the store are also a faithful and awesome group of people. \$3,500 has been donated for apportionments this second quarter of the year.

We NEED 3 MORE PEOPLE for pricing and 5 MORE PEOPLE for sales days and someone who will do our publicity and marketing. Contact Gloria McClanahan 291-8403. WELCOME DONATIONS are tools; sewing notions; costume jewelry; furniture that fits in back of a car; bath towels; the usual kitchen items and clothing, of course!

On August sale days we will feature camping items so please look around at your house and shake out some gear!! If you have a pricing suggestion on your items, let us know and we will follow your directions. Thanks for your efforts.



Haiti scholarships:

Did you know?...

That MUMC raised enough money to send our UMVIM team to Haiti AND to feed the school children for 6 weeks AND to buy another portable water purifier system to be shared with a neighboring school?

WAY TO GO MUMC!!

AND



Did you know?....

The Haiti team is continuing to speak to neighboring UM congregations, to share about their experiences and to encourage others to be involved in hands-on mission work?

AND



Did you know?....

It cost \$150 tuition for one year for one student at the Haitian Methodist School in Thomas, where our team was working? AND our team has made a commitment to raise at least 10 scholarships from the other congregations to whom they are speaking this summer.

Please continue to hold the people of Haiti in your prayers - especially those at the school in Thomas. ALSO, please continue to hold the Haiti team in your prayers as they travel to various other congregations, that God may keep them safe and use them well.

**UMVIM Mission Team**

MUMC is sending another team in mission!

We are so pleased to have three women from our congregation heading off on an UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers In Mission) trip. Judy Gross, Dorothy Hesket and Mary Vollman will travel in October to the UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) depot outside Salt Lake City to help prepare pallets of supplies to ship to place experiencing natural disasters.

We will plan to dedicate them to this ministry when we gather in a combined worship service for World Communion Sunday on October 6.

Please begin now to pray for this team, and the meaningful work they will be doing. Pray, too, for those who will be receiving the emergency supplies. We do not yet know who they will be, but we can be praying that in their time of need they will experience these supplies as a gift of God's love.



I am so blessed to be returned to MUMC for another year with the congregation! I give thanks and praise to God for the people called Methodist in this setting!

I am reminded of William Carey of the Particular Baptist Church in England when he preached a sermon in 1792 in which he challenged those present to "Attempt great things for God. Expect great things from God."

In the past three years this congregation has attempted many great things for God - and God has blessed us in even greater ways than we had thought possible!

We raise a downpayment and acquired a parsonage in a 5 month period in 2011 (and doubled our apportionment payments that year over 2010's payments)

We paid our apportionments in full in 2012 - the first time in at least 17 years.

We sent a team to Haiti in March 2013 - with \$5000 extra to bless the people of Haiti

In January we began to test a new approach to Christian Education which has substantially increased participation by people of all ages

Our choir has been stepping out to boost missions through their singing

We had an all-congregation emphasis on Committed to Christ in Lent 2013, helping us to "step up our game" as we trust more completely in Jesus.

We packed 10,000 in 80 minutes in May.

We've had more folks volunteering in our ongoing ministries.

We are beginning to read through the Bible together.

AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

I am reminded of the story of Gideon found in the book of Judges. God asked Gideon to do a task that was HUGE! Gideon reluctantly accepted the task, and called Israel to do the work. God then sets about reducing the work force. The story reads this way:

The Lord said to Gideon, 'You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, "My own strength has saved me.'" (Judges 7:2 NIVUK)

This story reinforces the concept that we are to attempt GREAT things for God! We need to step out in mission and ministry in ways that are clearly BEYOND what can be done on our own strength. As we seek to boldly share the love of Jesus and **DEPEND ON JESUS' GRACE TO CARRY US THROUGH** we can expect that **GOD WILL** use our ministries to be a blessing in ways far beyond what we had imagined when we began!

I am excited to see what the year will bring!

-js



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 Church of Clovis
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 CHURCH E-MAIL: memumc@mem-umc.org

July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
21 *5 pm Prayer Cell	22	23 *8am Thrift Shop Workday	24	25	26 *7 pm Ballroom Dance	27 *8am Yoga *10am WWD Group *2pm Special Friends Project
28 *12:30 pm The Network	29	30	31			