

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



OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

559-299-4615 MEM-UMC.ORG



Watch for
the

Head



Heart



Hand



Symbols
to see
how these
minis-
tries are
targets
to help
your
spiritual
growth



November Boutique is Coming Quickly!



**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14TH AND
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15TH
9 AM—2 PM**

DON'T MISS.....

**HAND CRAFTED ITEMS: CHRISTMAS &
EMBROIDERY ITEMS, UNIQUE GIFT THINGS
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.....**

**COUNTRY STORE: A FAVORITE WITH HOME-
MADE JAMS, COOKIES, PIES, FUDGE & MUCH
MORE.**

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED EACH DAY: 11:00 AM—1:00PM

FRIDAY LUNCH COST: \$8.00

SATURDAY LUNCH COST" \$6.00

INCLUDE DRINK AND HOMEMADE DESSERT

**DRAWING TICKETS ARE \$1.00 EACH OR 6
FOR \$5.00**

DRAWING PRIZES

EMBROIDERED, HAND-QUILTED QUEEN SIZE QUILT

HAND-MADE AFGHAN

18" DOLL WITH HAND-MADE WARDROBE

GEEK BOW-TEEK:

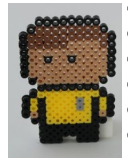
UNIQUE GIFTS—ALL THINGS GEEK.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE

WHO LIKES:



**DR WHO, STAR WARS,
STAR TREK,
COMPUTERS,
SCIENCE,**



SCI-FI & FANTASY?

STOP BY

THE GEEK BOW-TEEK CORNER

AT OUR

ANNUAL BOUTIQUE

NOVEMBER 14TH AND 15TH,



Youth & Young Adults

Magic Mountain Trip

The youth and young adults are going to take a fun trip to Six Flags Magic Mountain thanks to a generous donation! We'll head down Sat Oct 11.

To reserve your spot, text or give Sara a call (455-7960) by Thurs. Oct 2.

Halloween Lock-in

Join us for a spooky great time at a Halloween Lock-in Friday night October 31. We'll start at regular youth group time (7) and sleep in the social hall after some fun off-campus field trips. Pickup will be 9a Sat morning. Let Sara know if you're planning to come join in the fun!

The WWD group is planning a trip to the
The Butterfly Sanctuary,

in Madera, on Oct. 11th 2014 at 10:00am.

Admission is Free

The address is 13702 Road 20, Madera, CA.

The Cellars cultivate, grow and process pomegranates and pomegranate products. It's also home to hundreds of beautiful butterflies.

A trolley will take us through the pomegranate grove. The surrounding area is flat and easily traversed. There is no time limit to our visit.

There is no food available on site, but eating facilities are nearby for those who would like to have lunch.

We will meet at the church to car pool at 10 am. You can contact me if you are interested in joining us or if you have questions.

Joyce Lewis 298-1542

Upcoming Events



Are you interested in visiting the Holy land?

HOLY LAND TRIP - will meet on October 12 at 1 pm. At this time we will make the decision whether to book our flight for the pilgrimage, or set the trip aside. Everyone is invited to pray for wisdom as the group seeks to be faithful to God's calling in our lives.

Live Nativity Event

The Live Nativity Team is forming now! Our annual Live Nativity Event will take place on Dec. 14 and 15. This is a walk-through telling of the first Christmas story, complete with live performers and animals, music and narration. It is a lovely experience for the families and neighbors that attend. The Live Nativity event has also taught us as a church family that it doesn't matter how young or old you are, or how physically strong or technically capable you are: there is a way to help at the Nativity. If you are interested in helping organize and plan the event this year, please contact Connie Alfaro at (559) 905-2240 or conniealfaro1313@gmail.com.



The First Friday Film Fest

continues with a loyal crowd of attendees, fresh popcorn, and delicious snacks. The only thing missing is you! Please join us on the first Friday of the month in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. to set up. The Feature Presentation starts at 7:00 p.m. Bring something comfortable to sit on and goodies to share.

Exciting News!! We have subtitles working now!!

Coming Soon:

Oct. 3
First Friday Fright Fest:
"Warm Bodies"

Nov. 7
First Friday Fest: -Freedom
"Waking Ned Divine"

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MUMC & Academy</u> <u>UMC</u></p> <p>MUMC/ Academy Bible study group meets the Second Saturday of each month from 11-12 noon. This group is not only studying the</p> | <p>Bible, but also to build and strengthen relationships and ministries between our two congregations. Our next meetings will be: Oct. 11th.</p> |
|---|--|



Upcoming Events



Toy Drive Kick Off November 2nd

This is MUMC's fourth year of hosting a toy distribution for local children. We have had **WONDERFUL** responses both in donations and from the families receiving the gifts.

For your convenience a donation box will be in the Narthex throughout the month of November.



December Coming Events

- Dec. 5 & 6 8:00am Thrift Shop Open
- Dec. 5 6:30pm First Friday Film Fest-Festive Elf
- Dec. 6 8:00am United Methodist Men's Breakfast
- Dec. 6 6:00pm Advent Dinner
- Dec. 6 6:30pm Clovis Children's Electric Christmas Parade
- Dec. 7 2:00pm Academy Advent Service
- Dec. 13 9:00am Toy Drive Sign-ups
- Dec. 13 11:00am Fresno Christmas Parade
- Dec 13 & 14 6:00pm Live Nativity
- Dec. 14 12:00pm 2nd Sunday Lunch
- Dec. 14-15 6:00-8:00 p.m. Live Nativity Event
- Dec. 21 6:00 p.m. Longest Night Dinner/Service
- Dec. 24 7:00pm Christmas Eve Services
11:00pm Christmas Eve Service
- Dec.31 7:00pm New Year's Eve Party

TEAMS AND MINISTRIES

The Mission Thrift Shop



is having a seasonal "Holidays Sale" the first weekend of October, November and December.

Donations are requested for items related to Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and anything else you would like to donate.

Halloween donations needed before October 1st. And don't forget to come to our seasonal "Holiday Sales". You may find that special item for your holiday season.

Gary



UMW News



October

2-UMW Unit Meeting 10:00 am, Fellowship Hall Program TBA
Lunch after , Bring your own table service.

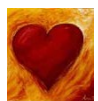
6- UMW Executive Board Meeting 10:00 AM, Library

22- Wesley Group 1:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

November

3- UMW Executive Board Meeting 10:00 AM, Library

18-Turkey Dinner with ALL the extras 10:00am,



October November Birthdays



| | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------|
| Craig | Eckert | 10/02 |
| Don | Haulman | 10/02 |
| Sara | Pachelbel | 10/02 |
| Aly | Saavedra | 10/03 |
| Wayne | Golden | 10/06 |
| Kou | Hang | 10/06 |
| Ann | Bianchi | 10/07 |
| Xoua | Kong | 10/08 |
| Ger | Lee | 10/09 |
| Leonard | Babcock | 10/10 |
| Zack | Stoddard | 10/11 |
| Neng | Vang | 10/15 |
| Gail | Davis | 10/16 |
| Elijah | Glazebrook | 10/16 |
| Carolyn Ann | Pippin | 10/19 |
| Max | Cannon | 10/20 |
| Jim | McClanahan | 10/20 |
| Nou | Xiong | 10/22 |
| Joyce | Lewis | 10/24 |
| Andy | Hansen-Smith | 10/27 |
| Taylor | Her | 10/28 |
| Joan | Bowser | 10/28 |
| Chi | Uwaoma | 10/30 |
| Donna | Wamsley | 10/30 |
| Katelin | Williams | 10/30 |
| Andres | Yang | 10/30 |
| Carol | Febuary | 10/31 |



| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Carolyn | Gentry | 11/05 |
| Margaret | Nicholls | 11/05 |
| Tosh | Cook | 11/07 |
| Jamie | Belt | 11/08 |
| Bon Van | Vang | 11/09 |
| Diane | Zastovnik | 11/10 |
| Wynter | Martinez | 11/11 |
| Robert | Sinclair | 11/13 |
| Blanche | Spencer | 11/13 |
| Evie | Weiss | 11/13 |
| Lee Jenny | Her | 11/15 |
| Marlene | Remer | 11/16 |
| Ger | Yang | 11/18 |
| Luke | Stoddard | 11/23 |
| Connie | Alfaro | 11/25 |
| Garland | Woodward | 11/25 |
| LeRoy | Ehresman | 11/28 |
| Ruth | Lind | 11/30 |
| Nora | Uwaoma | 11/30 |

BALLROOM DANCE



Dancies being taught
 Cha Cha Cha for September,
 Waltz is requested for October
 You do not need a partner.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday nights at
 7 p.m. in the narthex.
 No flip flops for safety reasons.
 The class is FREE.



Christian Book Club



The Christian Book Club is now
 reading

"Twelve Extraordinary Women".
 We are reading one chapter
 each week, week one was about
 Eve, week two is about Sara.

Join us on Tuesday's
 at 7pm.



Special Friends

The Special Friends group met July 10, with thoughts of Transformation. There is a great distinction between change and transformation. Change refers to adaptation-reaction without necessarily involving the newness of being. Transformation implies new being, a new creative energy flowing from the center which acts with creative power upon surrounding events.

Think of the metamorphosis of the caterpillar into the butterfly. Like the caterpillar, we are born for a greater purpose than is apparent on the outside. God creates us with a promise inside. We are made for fellowship with God; we are created as images of God's love. Our lives are not complete until Christ is formed in us.

For a time we live for ourselves, we consume as much as we can, build ourselves up outwardly. Then something happens-God calls us to a deeper place. The time for transformation has come. We meet Christ who gives us God's vision for our lives. Here, in the caring company of others on the journey of transformation, we learn to open to God in prayer, to listen to the word in study, and to exercise our new life in the Spirit by reaching out to our brothers and sisters in darkness and needs.

We were saddened by the loss of special friends, Jean Lenderman and Carl Nutting-at home and at peace with God. During the month we made 7 visits, 31 calls, and sent 43 cards.

Closing thought. Jesus said; "Don't be afraid. I am there with you, bringing you peace and courage."



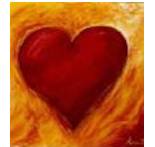
When the Special Friends group met August 14th, our meditation focused on Listening, from the Upper Room. Jesus spent much time in communion with God, listening to the Father calling him Beloved. That's the voice Jesus heard when he came out of the water at his baptism and on his mountain top experience (Luke:39) From God's words, Jesus knew he was God's favorite one. That gave him the ability to walk freely into a world in which he was not treated as the Beloved. The importance of being with God on our mountain top is so we can hear Him say that we are loved as he is loved. That same voice is there for us. To pray is to let that voice speak to the center of our being and to permeate our whole life. This listening is not easy. God's voice is not a voice we always hear with physical ears. God's word is not always an insight that suddenly comes to us in our minds or that satisfies our hearts. That is where the discipline of prayer comes in. We are called to pray because we want to be obedient, to listen to the voice that calls us the beloved. Prayer lets us reach out with love to others.

This month we sent 16 notes or cards, made 25 phone calls and 13 visits.

Our next meeting will be October 9th at 2 pm.

Closing thought. Knowing you are God's beloved child, whom will you reach out to today?

Blessings, Lorraine May



Finance

August Finances Show Big Improvement



A giant thank you goes out to everyone who helped BUMP up our finances through giving to the Non-Cruise. The preliminary figures show that the total amount taken in was \$9,315 as of the night of the Captain's Dinner on September 13. More contributions will always be welcome as we continue to need extra funding to meet our budgetary expenses. The total given to the General Fund in August was \$30,582.93. This includes \$5,500 of the BUMP funds that were received before the end of the month. **This was the highest income for any month so far this year.** On the other hand, our expenses for August were the **lowest for any month this year,** totaling \$17,572.45. With this high income and low expenses, we managed to drop our deficit to \$3,414.18!! **Excellent work, people!!** We also are two months behind on our apportionments, and hope to be able to make this amount up with the September BUMP funds and the Thrift Store donation for this quarter.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed. Your generosity makes all our ministries possible.

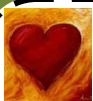
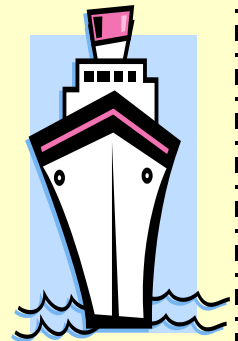
Non-Cruise

is our best

BUMP ever!

\$9,000 +

Way to go MUMC!



Message from Trustees

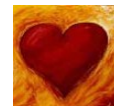
Some of you may not know that in the Fellowship hall, past the doors leading to the classrooms, is a "FIRE RATED Corridor." The rules for this area mandates that NOTHING be stored or left in the corridor from one end to the other and that all doors leading to and from the corridor may not be propped open, including the classroom doors. We have removed door stops for this reason. In 2013 when we had an unannounced inspection by Clovis Fire we were found in violation of these rules. We would ask that all of you who use this area please comply with these simple rules and keep the corridor clear of items and the doors closed at all times.



Stan Jenanyan

Stewardship

Our annual stewardship campaign will take place in October. We will be celebrating the ministries that God does through our congregation, and looking to strengthening those ministries in 2015. Everyone is invited to begin praying for this process - that it might both challenge and inspire us to more closely follow Jesus' teachings.



I have begun taking a class called "Sacred Journey." This class explores the topic of spiritual formation, both in the theoretical and in a very personal way. I am finding that I enjoy the class very much. The speakers have MUCH to offer, and the assigned books are thought provoking. I think it will enhance the program if I keep the congregation actively involved in what I am learning - so that we ALL get something out of the experience.

I just finished reading "Let Your Life Speak" by Parker Palmer. Palmer's underlying premise is that we are born gifted to do ministry - God creates each person with gifts to offer the world. Our lives are enriched, and God's Holy Realm is expanded, when these inborn gifts are used in our daily living.

Palmer also suggests that many of us don't actually know or understand what our inborn giftedness actually IS. Often we are directed and shaped by society/culture/family/friends to think some gifts are more valuable, and therefore we seek to acquire them. Regardless of what gifts God has actually placed in our innermost being, we may strive for gifts deemed "good" or "important" and ignore or repress our true selves. While this is very common, it actually leads to brokenness and underlying dissatisfaction subconsciously influencing our decisions. It can and does pollute every aspect of our lives.

So what does this mean for the community life of our congregation? Below are some of my thoughts and reflections on that question. And more questions. I hope you will share your thoughts & insights with me and with each other, that we may all benefit and grow as followers of Jesus.

1) I think it is true that most of our lives we are not given any tools or support to uncover our inner giftedness. The surrounding culture, our school, even many families, work to guide us in predetermined ways deemed "helpful" or "important" or "profitable." I think we all have experienced, either personally or through someone close to us, times when someone was going through a mid-life crisis or couldn't figure out a career path - because what they were doing/studying and what their deepest self longed to do/study did not match up.

2) It seems to me that sometimes our inborn giftedness is not fully revealed until we have lived many years and experienced many things.

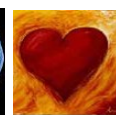
Sometimes we may have a very satisfying life, and in our later years discover an inner gift which had lain dormant until just the right time. Or perhaps there is an underlying restlessness with which we may live for decades until, "in the fullness of time," something changes in our lives and one of our inborn gifts shifts from subconscious to our conscious mind. I think it can be a deep truth for each of us that all along our life's journey we will continue to learn more about ourselves, becoming more comfortable with who God has created each of us uniquely to be. This is one aspect of intentional spiritual formation, or maturing in our faith.

3) Perhaps Christian congregations need to be more intentional about helping people connect with their inborn gifts and true selves. There are Christian denominations that have long traditions and practices to help people discern these deep truths. Might MUMC be able to learn some of these and test them to see if they are helpful? Do you know of such practices? Have you tried some? What has YOUR experience been in this area?

4) Perhaps MUMC could incorporate some of these discernment practices into our Christian Education program at all ages. What if we not only taught the stories of the Bible, but also taught people how to listen to/for their deepest selves? How might life be different for a new generation if they grew up knowing that God has placed amazing giftedness within them, and each of us gets to spend our lives daily unwrapping that gift down to the very core of our being? Could the teen years be less chaotic if our children and youth learn spiritual disciplines to help calm and center their lives? Could families find greater peace together if our Christian Education programs help people see beyond the superficial behaviors and conversation to connect one with another in honesty about our deepest selves and inner struggles?

I do not have all the answers. The course I am taking does not have all the answers. What I am finding is, it is helping me to ask new questions. May God bless us all as we seek to find answers to these and other wonderful questions that will come our way as we each seek to be intentional about spiritual growth.

-js



Memorial United Methodist
Church of Clovis
1726 Pollasky Ave
Clovis, CA 93612

CHURCH PHONE: 559-299-4615

CHURCH E-MAIL: memumc@mem-umc.org

**ALL-CHURCH
CONFERENCE
IS COMING!!**



This year we will have
some extra fun at our
annual all-church conference:

Tuesday, November 18

Spaghetti Dinner served 6pm (until 7:30 pm)
by our youth to raise funds for their 2015
Mission Trip.

- ✦ \$3 adults for complete meal!
- ✦ \$1.50 for kids,
- ✦ \$10 maximum per family

➔ **Annual Meeting** ←

begins at 7 pm. We will have special activi-
ties for children during the meeting

Heading home by 8 pm

Please mark your calendar and plan to at-
tend both the dinner and the meeting.



**Fresno-Clovis 2014
CROP Hunger Walk**



Time to get those walking shoes out...it's CROP Hun-
ger Walk time again! There are some big changes in
store for this year's event so keep posted for updated
information as it becomes available. The 2014 CROP
Walk/Run will take place on SATURDAY, November
15th. at Woodward Park.

Memorial UMC folk have been participating for nearly
three decades, either by walking or by sponsoring
walkers and we have hosted it two times. The funds
raised benefit the hungry in the our valley area who
are assisted by the Community Food Bank and also
support long-term hunger-related development pro-
grams 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.