



GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church Aug-Sept 2011 Ph: 299-4615

"The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

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SPECIAL MISSION PRESENTATION-MONDAY, AUGUST 8 - DON'T MISS IT!! You are invited to a very special event on Monday, August 8th at 7:00 P.M. in the church sanctuary. Kevin Bonzo, son of Rich and Janet, along with his friend Jordan, will be sharing an audio-visual presentation about their recent trip to Kenya. You won't want to miss this inspiring time where Kevin and Jordan will provide us with a firsthand account of how God is working in their lives and how they were touched by their experiences in Kenya. Light refreshments will be served after. Please come to support and be uplifted by these two dedicated servants of Christ!

NEW EVENT! Second Sunday Family Lunch

Each month on the Second Sunday let's join together with our church family to have lunch and fun!

We will start eating by 12:15 (after close of the second service and time to greet one another)

The cost will be Adults: \$5

 Kids under age 12: \$2

Different activity or entertainment each month! (For about half an hour)

Tidy up and clear out about 1:15

-Upcoming plans:

**August 14: Edie will prepare the lunch; salads, dessert & beverages

Activity – Free BINGO with prizes!!

**September 11 – Lorraine May and friends will prepare the lunch.

Activity – Janette Erickson will bless us with music as she performs on the flute.

Why are we doing this?

It has been observed that a lot of our MUMC people go out to lunch at nearby restaurants on Sunday. If we join together once each month for lunch we can:

Get to know each other better

Have fun together

Save a little money personally (\$5 is usually less than folks spend at a restaurant)

Raise a little money for our ministries

Make it part of your regular plans – Lunch with the church family on the Second Sunday each month!

Our **ANNUAL ALL CHURCH CONFERENCE** will be done slightly differently this year:

We will have a Celebration of Ministries in worship and during fellowship time on Sunday, September 18th. Also, we will have the "Charge Conference" packets available for people to take home to read.

The All Church Conference, for the purpose of electing leadership, reviewing membership, and setting the pastors' compensation packages will be on Monday, September 19 at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. Rev. Vickie Healy will preside.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS If you are interested in becoming a member of MUMC, Pastor Janette will be holding membership classes September 10 & 11 from 6-8 pm. If you have never been a member of a United Methodist church before, plan to attend both Sat night and Sun nights; if you are new to MUMC but are transferring from another UM church, plan to attend Sun night only. New members will be brought into membership during our celebration of ministry Sunday morning, Sept 18. If you are interested in membership, please contact Pastor Janette by Tuesday, September 6 so that she can prepare enough materials.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITY: There is interest here at MUMC to have some people attend a leadership development training in Kansas City in late September. It is our hope that any who attend this year will be able to share of their experience with others. Please hold this idea up to God in prayer – that we might discern how best to train-up leaders, and how best to utilize the resources we have.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

PTO HIKING TRIP SUNDAY AUG 7: If you want to go on a super-fun hiking trip with the PTO group, meet after the 2nd service on Sunday August 7. Please bring a sack lunch with you, and wear some shoes that were made for walking! We will drive somewhere cooler than Fresno to do the hike. Contact Ron Zastovnik with questions, or for more details.

STORIES FROM SSP AUGUST 14: The youth group will be sharing their Sierra Service project experiences during the worship services on Sunday August 14 through pictures, stories, and personal testimonies. Join us for this special time to share in the celebration of mission!

YOUTH PARENT MEETING AUGUST 21: All parents/guardians who have a child in 7th – 12th grade are invited to join us at 4:30 pm Sunday August 21 in the Social Hall for a parent meeting to talk about the direction of the youth group for the next year, and plans for Sara's maternity leave.

MOVIN ON UP YOUTH GROUP SWIM PARTY AUGUST 28: We've rescheduled our swim party for Aug 28 at Sara's parent's house. If you would prefer to carpool please let Sara know, and we can have a group that will carpool from the church. Join us to celebrate the summer and new school year with a BBQ/Swim party! All of you who will be 7th-12th graders next year are welcome to join us at 4pm on Sunday August 28!



ALL CHURCH OPEN HOUSE AT THE PARSONAGE SEPT 4: Everyone is invited to an open house style celebration at the new parsonage on Sun. evening Sept 4 from 5-8 p.m. Come and join the fun! Food and entertainment will be provided by the Saavedra family as a THANK YOU for working so faithfully to improve family life for your senior pastor now, and for years and years to come!

ALL CHURCH CAMPING TRIP SEPTEMBER 23 & 24!

Mark your calendars for an all church camping trip Fri Sept 23 and Sat Sept 24 in Huntington Lake! If you want to sign up to participate, or if you have any more questions, contact Diane Zastovnik. We will print more details in the bulletin as we plan, so keep checking there, too!



ACADEMY CHURCH BOUTIQUE AND BBQ OCT 1:

October 1, 2011 – Join us at 11 a.m. for the annual boutique, held in the Pavilion area, and at 1:00 p.m. for a deep pit Bar-B-Que.

MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION OCT 2: Our Pentecost Ice Cream Social and Music Festival on May 15th was WONDERFUL! We had SO MUCH FUN, and grew together as a family in Christ with all three language ministries sharing from our cultures and praising God in music! We also raised over \$800 for "Nothing But Nets." The entire event was FANTASTIC – and we plan to repeat that activity yearly!

Our next **THREE-LANGUAGES COMBINED EVENT** will be

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 2, 2011

Multicultural Potluck at 7 pm

Holy Communion at 8 pm

Bring your favorite dish to share and sample foods from around the world! We are starting the potluck at 7 pm to allow the membership of the Korean Fellowship – many of whom are small business owners – to close up shop, grab their food and drive to MUMC.

At 8 pm we will all join together in the sanctuary for a time of Holy Communion – living right in our church buildings the true meaning of World Communion Sunday!

IMPORTANT! EVERYONE is needed to help with the ALL CHURCH FUNDRAISER on October 22nd!

In January we made a commitment to do one BIG fundraiser for the purpose of supporting our apportionment payments. (Apportionments are funds collected from each local congregation in our denomination for the purpose of supporting the world-wide ministries of the United Methodist Church. For a very long time we have

not paid our apportionments in full, and we are resolved to reverse that trend!)

This fundraiser will take the shape of a LOT of different kinds of sales and activities happening simultaneously on Saturday, October 22. Plans are shaping up, and we hope to have:

- Vendor booths
- Native plant sale
- Carnival games
- Bounce House
- Full BBQ meal
- Snacking foods

Information booths on our congregation and its ministries

World's easiest yard sale

Maybe even a pumpkin patch...

And any more ideas that folks are willing to organize!

Chi Uwaoma is overseeing this all-church activity.



THANKS, Chi! If you can help coordinate one area of the event, talk with Chi or Pastor Janette
EVERYONE – Please mark your calendars and plan to be on site to help out on October 22nd! It is going to be a GREAT day!

ANNUAL CONFERENCE CORNER

A/C 2011 REPORT:

This year saw the largest number of children at Conference. They are divided into four groups for individual care and activities on each age level. Every year, everyone looks forward to the Kids at Conference time on the last day of the conference, and this year was no exception. The youth marched into the room amidst singing and clapping, joining Bishop Brown on the stage for fun interaction with him, and bringing him a gift they had made. A few shared what they had liked best during the week's activities, and one young man was given Bishop Brown's cap and sat in his seat. A teenager had the distinction of attending seventeen sessions of conference, beginning as an infant.

One day for a fun activity, the older ones went swimming at a water park in Sacramento. They also spent a day at a food bank sorting donated foods and

clothing, practicing God's mission in the world to 'Be who you are, See what you have, and Do what matters to God.'

The youth seemed to be very visible on the conference floor this year. We saw ones we knew taking part in a worship service; Mando Saavedra read the scripture, and Carter Yang spoke, while using a pen to make a point for the direction our lives should go. To be in mission, we must be like the pen, going before God who can make the point work for him.

As a carry-over from last year's "Imagine No Malaria" drive, the youth took advantage of an opportunity to collect funds at the suggestion of our District Superintendent who said they would be around tables collecting from anyone who had not pre-paid for their meal. This turned into a laughing matter among the group, and the collection amounted to \$23123.00. At the next morning's session, Bishop Brown mentioned the amount, and thought we could do better than that, offering his own contribution of \$100.00, and asking for anyone else willing to make a similar contribution to raise a hand. Fifty one hands went up, making the total contribution to Imagine No Malaria \$7,313.00. The netting that this will purchase works towards the goal of ridding the world of malaria because it not only protects the person covered, but contains a substance that kills the mosquito touching the net.

Youth were involved as candidates in the selection of members for the Jurisdictional Conference. With the new conference division of only four districts, seven members would be chosen to make the necessary twenty-eight members. The candidates made very impressive speeches listing their qualifications and desires to serve. Two siblings were vying for an office. The votes were close, and Aaron Rhodes won while his sister, Emma, was selected as an alternate to the Jurisdictional Conference.

During the Communion Service the first evening, Mando assisted his father, Pastor Juan Saavedra serve the elements to Edie Dyer and Pastor Janette.

Emphasis has been placed on the youth being the heart of a growing church. What I saw at Conference brought joy to my heart that the United Methodist Church will survive and thrive.

Please pray for those gathering this week for the Youth Conference in Sacramento July 27-30, 2011.

-Lorraine May

Congregational Life



CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES!! If you or someone you know graduated at the end of the school year – let us know! We'd like to recognize all graduates. Please turn the names into the office by August 7. Thanks!



WITH THANKS: I would like to thank each and every one of you that sent me a note, letter, called on the phone or sent a beautiful get well card that helped encourage me in my recent illness. I was overwhelmed, and so thrilled with the prayer shawl; it was so beautiful, and I never expected to get on! Thank you to the person that made it. It was wonderful to know that you cared, and I appreciated Pastor Janette's visit so much. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! God bless all of you – Ruth Ehresman

TEAMS AND MINISTRIES CORNER

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Income: May \$1,272.86; June \$1,134.14; July \$1,274.77
On the first Friday of the month at 6:15 a.m. one would find Mac Magargee, Howard Vollman, Jodi Booze, Janet Bonzo and Gloria McClanahan on the spot ready to set up for a big day of sales at the thrift shop. Banners are hung out; signs set up and table after table of goods and racks of clothing are put on display outside. Jodi busily vacuums the whole store; "specials of the month" signs are posted and at 7:45 we pause, have a prayer and open for business.

The parking lot is nearly filled and soon the cash register staffed by Sharee Woxell is cha-chinging away to the line of customers that fills the front of the store.

If you have never been in our Thrift Shop on Friday morning, this would be hard to believe. It all starts again at 7 a.m. on Saturday although not quite as frantic.

In our first six months of operation this year we have collectively logged approximately 949 volunteer hours!

Thank you volunteers--every single one of you is important, and thanks to everyone else, for your donations.

With our appreciation we will carry on.

-Gloria McClanahan and Janet Bonzo

CHURCH PANTRY NEWS

The church pantry will be open on Mondays only from 10AM-noon. This will make 4 days out of the month where those who come for food can be sure to get a full bag of food and also to cut down on the time it takes for people in the office having to interrupt their work and give out bags. We need volunteers for that 2 hour time frame. Please sign up for one time a month for this idea that Dr Lose had brought to life in this church years ago! Thank You ~ Pantry Team

DINNER'S FOR SIX: Dinner's For Six will be regrouping starting September 1, 2011. Anyone interested in joining should call Carol Febuary by that date.

SPECIAL FRIENDS: When we gathered in May, we talked about hospitality being essential to spiritual practice. A church was mentioned with a tradition shared in their ritual of Holy Communion. They gather, holding hands, in a big circle around the room. At the table in the center of the room are the elements of bread and cup of juice. Before the prayer of consecration, the pastor says "Christ invites you to this table. This table doesn't belong to me or to the Methodist church. This is the table where Christ is the host, and everyone has a place at this table." We all repeat "Everyone has a place at this table." What might you be called to do that will push you just a little closer to Christ's ministry of hospitality?

In April/May we made 9 visits, 47 phone visits, and sent 40 cards and notes. Our next meeting will be August 11 at 2:30 p.m. Come join us!!



UMW NEWS:

- August 29: Executive Board Meeting at 9am in the Lose Library
 - September 7: Red Bird Circle at 9:30 am in the Lose Library
 - September 20: regular meeting at 10 am in the Social Hall. We will celebrate the World Day of prayer, with George Elgin as our speaker. Please bring your Blue Boxes. Executive Board will host.
 - September 28: Wesley – lunch out TBA
- Questions? Contact Barbara Nielsen at 291-0935

YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH EVENTS THROUGH SEPTEMBER

- ☺ **SUNDAY JULY 31 – ALL CHURCH TREASURE HUNT AT 6:00 PM**
- ☺ **SUNDAY AUGUST 7 – MUSIC REHEARSAL AT 5:15 PM, YOUTH GROUP AT 6:00 PM.**
- ☺ **SUNDAY AUGUST 14 – MUSIC REHEARSAL AT 5:15 PM, YOUTH GROUP AT 6:00 PM.**
- ☺ **SATURDAY AUGUST 20 – MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 10:00 AM TO HEAD TO POVERELLO HOUSE!**
- ☺ **SUNDAY AUGUST 21 – PARENT MEETING AT 4:30 IN THE SOCIAL HALL**
- ☺ **SUNDAY AUGUST 21 – MUSIC REHEARSAL AT 5:15 PM, YOUTH GROUP AT 6:00 PM.**
- ☺ **SUNDAY AUGUST 28 – SWIM PARTY AT 4PM.**
- ☺ **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4 – OPEN HOUSE AT THE PARSONAGE AT 5:00 PM**
- ☺ **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11 – MUSIC REHEARSAL AT 5:15 PM, YOUTH GROUP AT 6:00 PM.**
- ☺ **SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17 – MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 10:00 AM TO HEAD TO POVERELLO HOUSE!**
- ☺ **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18 – MUSIC REHEARSAL AT 5:15 PM, YOUTH GROUP AT 6:00 PM.**
- ☺ **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25 – MUSIC REHEARSAL AT 5:15 PM, YOUTH GROUP AT 6:00 PM.**

FROM THE PASTOR

Our Annual Conference is striving to rediscover the early zeal of the Methodist movement. Prior to the Annual Conference Session (ACS - a meeting held yearly in June) we were asked to be in prayer, lifting the ACS to God for inspiration and guidance. Many individuals and congregations participated in a study specifically designed for our Annual Conference entitled "Catch Fire in 50 Days." I believe this focused prayer really helped, as this ACS was filled with positive energy and excitement unlike any session I have previously experienced.

ACS usually invites a keynote speaker to address those gathered for at least an hour. This year Rev. Adam Hamilton, senior pastor of Church of the Resurrection UMC in Leawood, KS, was the guest speaker. He addressed the ACS in three sessions of over an hour each. He is a wonderful and inspiring speaker, preacher and teacher, and we were blessed tremendously by his sharing.



In several of the stories that Rev. Hamilton lifted up, he commented on having people that are "willing to do whatever it takes" to truly follow where God is leading and do the ministry Jesus asks us to do. This phrase: "willing to do whatever it takes" – keeps swirling through my mind. Six words that can change everything.

willing to do whatever it takes

I have begun to explore those words for my own life. As a leader I don't believe in asking people to do things that I am not willing to do. So I ask, "Am I willing to do whatever it takes?"

The answer is: Yes – to the best of my understanding. Sadly, there are times when I discover my understanding is below where it needs to be!

**I do tithe – give 10% of my gross income to MUMC. This means that here I give \$450-500 each month to the ministry of MUMC. (Juan tithes to his congregations, too.)

** I do engage in ongoing spiritual formation – the Spiritual Disciplines groups are a treasure to me, helping me to be diligent in daily study.

**I do engage in service work, and intentional mission and outreach ministries. These are some of the basics I do as a part of "walking the walk."

I find I still struggle with other areas – the areas where my understanding of the direct application of the teachings of Jesus needs a boost. I recently asked the Disciplines classes to pray for me: that I may grow in wisdom. OUCH! Growing in wisdom was painful as I began to see the places where I am not living out God's unconditional love as fully as might be possible.

willing to do whatever it takes

My question to myself, and to each of you, is this: Am I (Are you) willing to do whatever it takes? Am I willing to grow in wisdom and understanding, even when that requires me to change some attitude and behaviors? Even when it is uncomfortable? Even when it means rubbing shoulders with people who make me angry? (And why am I getting angry, anyway? Is it a "righteous" anger – or a SELF-righteous anger?)

Lots of tough questions. I invite you to join me in exploring these questions, and even to risk the pain that can come when we grow in wisdom, so that we may all take on the attitude that we are

willing to do whatever it takes

to be the people God is calling us to be. I believe this is an important KEY to the effectiveness of the ministries of our congregation. -js

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Aug / Sept Birthdays

Shoua Yang 08/01
Shirley Loakes 08/02
Cecil Leonardo 08/04
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
Shia Thao Yang 08/10
Lucy Gadberry 08/11
Jennifer Meador 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
Joyce Yang 08/20
Grace Yang 08/20
Mary Yang 08/20
Betty Anderson 08/21
Bla Yang Moua 08/21
Grace Moua 08/21
May Chee (Sandy)
Moua 08/22
Elijah Yang 08/22
Guin Jenanyan 08/23
LaDonna Snow 08/24
Bryan Thao 08/24

Duane Wamsley 08/24
Cliff Stocks 08/26
Edie Dyer 08/27
Sheila Weyant 08/29
Newell Knudson 09/02
Patricia Davidson
09/04
Chia Me Vang 09/04
Cheryl Pachelbel 09/05
Leonard Babcock III
09/09
Xiong Yang 09/10
Michael Crosslin 09/11
Karron Burks 09/13
Mai Chao Vang 09/13
Concetta Adams 09/14
Pa Chang 09/14
Jim Lowrey 09/14

Carson Spencer 09/14
Xao Jerry Yang 09/15
Sara Glazebrook 09/16
Erick Seay 09/17
Katy Wamsley 09/18
Andrew Xiong 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
Lynn Golden 09/29
Pat Manske 09/30

Psalms Challenge Responses:

Yielding to Yahweh
Yahweh, God, I marvel at the mountains you've carved,
Your oceans teem with life and delight my eye.
Yellow turns my sad heart to happy...
You've painted flowers and butterflies with it, just to make
me smile.

Yearning for more, I look to azure skies, verdant greens,
and rose-hued sunsets.
Yet where do I see Your beauty shining most brightly?
Your Son reaches out to me in forgiveness and grace...
Yielding to it, I fall on my knees in wonder.
-Sue DeFranco

Waken with wonder, waiting is over.
Winter is gone now; all wishes fulfilled.
Water of God's love flowing to all,
Welcome God's beauty; welcome God's grace.
Warm spirit fills me, wanting for naught.
-Guin Jenanyan

God planted beauty everywhere
Great land, sea, and in the air
Gorgeous clouds and humans fair
Giraffes, monkeys, even the lion's hair
Gnus, lizards and herd of bear

Hunting God's beauty is real easy to do
Having it nearly makes it easy you
Hidden in the open surprises one too
He put it forever in our clear view
Heaven above and in mildew dew

From the face of a child to the scent of a rose
Full as a smile, as graceful as a pose
Floating as a cloud or sturdy as an Oak
Foaming as a soda, bubbly as a Coke
For easing our pain, God's beauty is no joke

Easy to find God's beauty is there
Entering the woods, or going anywhere
Elegantly hidden in rain or sun's glare
Everyone loves it – where is our 'thank you' prayer?
Eagles, evergreens, lilac, cactus, God put it in our care

Water in a rippling brook
Warbling birds your breath they took
Weasles so quick to run and spook
Wolves, otters, squirrels – give 'em a look!
God made them for us, says the good book
-John Tallmadge

We were created for joy, the reason for our being.
With great rejoicing, let us be glad in this evening!
When we give thanks, let us dance and sing,
Walking the earth to join praises to our king.
-Lorraine May

Blessed are you, O Lord.
Be there for us when times are hard,
because we need your healing.
Beside your will and power we are with you, and always
will be.
-Catrina and Cascada Peltz

Open your eyes and see God's art
Once done, feel your pounding heart.
Occasionally we fail to feel God is real
Observing His beauty alters how we feel,
Often giving us a fresh start.
-John Tallmadge

Just as I am, you chose me
Jesus' blood has washed me clean
Justice has not been heaped from thee
Judge not, lest it turns on you
Journey with God your life through
Jewels of love and life God gives you.
-Judith C. Gross

Always in need of a Savior,
Always in need of a friend,
and now I've found both in Jesus,
and he's promised to stay to the end.
Allelujah! What a savior!
-Anonymous

Out of our mouths, Lord,
Out of our love for you,
Our hearts are full of praise
Of your many mercies
Over all the earth
-Edie Dyer

The beauty of creation is shown to us each day by God
in:

The rising of the sun.
The dew on the grass.
The cheerful chirping of the birds.
The innocent sounds of children at play.
The barking and meowing of family pets.
The setting of the sun.
The rising of the moon.
-Janet Bonzo

Magnificent is the Lord.
Mediator for the world.
Make time to quietly listen for the voice of God.
Meditate upon His Word and pray.
Master your fears so you can boldly profess your faith.
May you always experience the grace, guidance and
wisdom of God.
-Max Cannon

Zebras are part of God's beauty
Zinnias are, too!
Zithers make sounds of beauty
Zebus of India holds the attention of me and you
Zulus, zeppelins and zebra fish have God's beauty, too.
-John Tallmadge

Leaves on trees you created faithfully
Lillies of the valley springs hope
Lead us to the likeness of your Son
Light sparks more flames
Loves unconditionally from all around
Lovely beyond my full understanding.
-Lisa Armentrout

I don't think of poems, they come to me
I'm not a writer,
I'm the hand that holds the pen.
Imagine, God, the thought that feeds our minds,
Increases our love, and binds our souls to him –
It's his love, the beauty that inspires.
-Diane Zastovnik

Excellent work, God!
Exhilarating life
Energizing me to
Exhortation of your love
¡Earth!
-Darren Williams

Life is really very good
Learning from church like we should
Living by God's guidance inspires
Leading us to restrict our desires
Loving each other is great
Letting us through the pearly gate
-Will Swieso

Open my eyes to see the beauty of our world.
Open my heart to feel your love for us.
Open my ears to hear the problems of others.
Open my mind to know your wisdom.
Open our world to share our love.
-Lou Heberlein

Omniscient – you are all knowing
Omnipotent – you are all almighty
Omnipresent – you are everywhere
Oblivious to my sins
Occupant of my heart
Offering salvation
Overwhelming love
Opens the door when we knock
Opponent of evil
Origin of everything
Overflowing blessings
Overseer of our lives
Overwhelming forgiveness
-Anonymous