

GOOD NEWS!

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

1726 POLLASKY AVE CLOVIS, CA 93612



559-299-4615 MEM-UMC.ORG

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A Month of Special Music Concerts is coming to MUMC!

After experiencing our wonderful Pentecost Music Festival on May 20, we will be warmed up for a MONTH of amazing concerts in our sanctuary!

May 31: the Western Jurisdiction Korean Mission will host a special concert at 7 p.m. with several AMAZING professional musicians from Korea and the United States.

June 3: the youth ministry of Epworth UMC from Boise, ID will share in a potluck with MUMC folks at 6 pm, and offer us a fantastic concert at 7:30 pm. This is appropriate for all ages!

June 16: the Halleluiah Music Festival sponsored by the Conference Committee on Hmong Ministry will be hosted in our sanctuary. Hmong language ministries from the heart of California will gather here at MUMC for a musical extravaganza! Registration and munchies at 9 a.m. 10-noon music. 12-1 Lunch. 1-3 more music. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

June 17: We will come together for a shared worship experience at 10:30 a.m. on June 17 when all parts of Memorial's music ministry will lead us for the entire service! It will be a beautifully inspiring experience! It is a perfect time to invite family and friends!

June 30: At 4pm pianist and song writer John Nilsen, will join us for an evening of music and story. The son of a UM pastor, the Bishop of the Oregon/Idaho Annual Conference says that John has performed in EVERY UM congregation In Oregon, and that EVERY congregation felt blessed by his ministry. What a great opportunity for us! (A "free will" offering will be taken at this concert as a gift to John.)

Upcoming Events



The Western Jurisdiction Korean Mission Leadership Conference

will be held in Fresno, May 29- June 1, with many events hosted at Memorial UMC! Our brothers and sisters in ministry are traveling from across the western United States and from South Korea for a 3 day conference on leadership and for spiritual renewal. We are blessed to be able to participate and offer hospitality to this group of about 180 people coming to our area for this time of inspiration and rededication. We would LOVE to have MUMC people stop by in the evening on the 29 and 31 to greet our guests and participate in the evening activities. Especially, we ALL will want to be present for the concert on May 31! (For more information, see article elsewhere in this issue on Special Concerts at MUMC.)



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR

JULY 29: From 6:00pm to 8:30pm our Annual FOF (Fun on the Fifth) Party is coming up on the fifth Sunday of July; get ready to celebrate the Wacky Olympics in a fun filled evening for all ages!

2012 California-Nevada Conference Mission Education Events Sponsored by CA/NV Conference UMW

Study choices are

1. Haiti
2. Immigration in the Bible
3. Poverty—Social Issues

1 Day Event- July 28, 2012-
deadline to register July
1, 2012 . Cost \$35.00

To be held at:

New Vision UMC
450 Chadbourne Ave
Millbrae, CA 94030
1-650-697-8300

1 Day Event August 11,
2012—deadline to register
July 15, 2012 Cost \$35.00

To be held here!

Clovis UMC
1726 Pollasky Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
1-559-299-4615

All women are invited to
attend!

Make checks payable to CA/
NV Conference UMW

For more information call
Barbara Nielsen at 291-0935

Adult education class

Sunday mornings at 11 a.m.

Andy Hansen-Smith is leading the class which meets in a corner of the Social Hall right after our fellowship time.

- † The current study, developed by Adam Hamilton, senior pastor of Church of the Resurrection UMC in Leawood, Kansas, deals with faith and politics.
- † The next study is also by Hamilton, "Confronting the Controversies."
- † In mid-July the class will move into a study of the Lord's prayer, to coincide with a sermon series on that topic. This study will use a book of daily devotional written by Larry Patten, a UM clergy living in Fresno.

All adults are welcome to join this weekly class!

UMW NEWS

June 4– Executive Board

June 19– Regular meeting 10 AM in the Social Hall Baseball game and picnic ...Bring a friend.

No further meetings until September.

ACADEMY CHURCH SERVICES:

June 24, 2012 at 5 pm Service followed by an Ice Cream Social will be held in the Pavilion Area.

-Submitted by Harriet Schiavon

June -July Birthdays

Chai YANG 06/01

Vu YANG 06/01

,Katherine DICKINSON 06/02

Velda HOUSE 06/02

Mai Thao HANG 06/04

Dorothy SINCLAIR 06/07

Bonnie HARKINS 06/10

Gao Ly VANG 06/10

TonyVANG 06/10

Choua YANG 06/10

Gao Ly YANG 06/10

Pai YANG 06/10

Dahlia THAO 06/11

Luella BAILEY 06/13

Addy VANG 06/15

Jacob HER 06/18

Ka KHANG 06/20

Dwight BIANCHI 06/23

Katelyn HER, 06/23

Barbara NIELSEN 06/23

Der YANG 06/25

Julianne THAO 06/26

Kou YANG 06/29

Dona LEONARDO 06/30

Tessa HANSEN-SMITH 07/01

Faith VANG 07/02

Barbara WOODWARD 07/03

Dhuaong HANG 07/04

Tiffany YANG 07/04

Mary ETELSON 07/05

Josiah YANG, 07/05

Koua Vang XIONG 07/08

Kia Thao YANG 07/08

Danielle UWAOMA 07/09

Bill SAUTTER 07/12

Richard EMMICK 07/13

Mely RINON 07/13

Edna MADDUX 07/14

Lorraine MAY 07/14

Nou Yeng YANG 07/16

Yi Cha CHA 07/17

Judith GROSS 07/17

Mando SAAVEDRA 07/18

Sunshine MOUA, 07/19

Celerina CARLOS 07/20

Gloria MCCLANAHAN 07/20

Georgia HOLMAN 07/21

Jordan YANG 07/21

Dang THAO 07/23

Mike JENNISON 07/25

Patti POND 07/29

Sue DEFRANCO 07/30

Dorothy HESKETT 07/31

A new/old idea for our Sunday Schedule:

"How can we boost our children & youth ministries?" This is a question that many people at MUMC have voiced.

One strong idea has been to build on what we currently have: several teachers for Christian Education in the English Language ministry, but few children or youth. LOTS of children and youth in our Hmong language ministry, but no Christian Education teachers.

About a year ago some ideas were tossed around as to how to change our Sunday schedule to accommodate having the Hmong and English language ministries on site simultaneously, but for a variety of reasons the idea had to be set aside for a time.

A new/old idea is surfacing, and there is some interest in exploring it more thoroughly with the entire congregation.

Check out the possible schedules in the column to the right.

There are benefits and also challenges to such a schedule change. It could be a big boost - but maybe not! What do YOU think? It is important to get ideas and input from throughout the congregation in order to make the best decision possible for the sake of our ministry.

PLEASE talk with your friends and other members of MUMC to share your ideas, questions, doubts, suggestions, enthusiasm.... The Network Team will be exploring this in the months ahead. Talk with Pastor Janette or any of our elected leadership of MUMC to be sure your ideas are heard. Also, be looking for announcements in the coming weeks about when the Network Team meeting will be addressing these suggested changes more directly.

POSSIBLE



New Schedule for Sundays

*We could begin by moving the Imagine! service to the evening.

10AM *The traditional style worship could be moved to 10 or 10:30 so we have a more relaxed morning schedule on our campus.

*Children's moment could be added to worship time

*Special activity packets would be made available for children in worship

5PM *Have a meal on Sunday evenings at 5 pm (possibly "Sunday Night Diners" to replace our Thursday Night Diners) this would be for the entire congregation - and maybe even invite the neighborhood in!

5:45PM *Have Sunday School with classes for ALL ages and BOTH languages at 5:45 pm

*Children and youth classes would match teachers and students! Yea!

*There could be multiple **adult** Christian Education classes

6:45PM *Have worship at 6:45 pm - done by 8 pm.

*Imagine! service in the Social Hall

*Hmong language service in the sanctuary

FINANCE REPORTS

March & April Financial Summary

Our finances through April are still good, helped in part by our campaign to Bump up Our Giving (see separate article). We paid our property insurance for an entire year in one lump sum to avoid finance charges, so for the remaining months, we can use that \$650 per month for other expenses. We have also made an extra payment on our parsonage mortgage, which helps reduce the principal. One extra payment of \$1,000 this early in the mortgage can save several thousand dollars in interest over the long run. We have also paid in full two of our apportionment items – Ministerial Education (\$1,558) and the Episcopal Fund (\$1,431) – and begun to pay on the \$19,180 Clergy Support item. Even with over \$6,000 paid ahead, we now have a small balance in the general fund This is excellent! However, if we are going to continue to keep up this good pace, we will need to receive more contributions than we currently have anticipated in our budget - which is why the on-going Bump Up campaign is crucial.

April Financial Summary	
General Fund Balance 12/31/11	\$3,416.68
General Fund income through March	\$88,925.08
Total available for expenditures	\$92,341.76
General Fund expenditures through March	\$88,434.06
General Fund Balance 4/30/2012**	\$3,907.7
Income over expenses this year	\$491.00
Designated income through April	\$17,640.79
Designated expenditures through April	\$18,085.70
Increase (decrease) in designated funds	-\$445.51
Designated fund balance 4/31/2012	\$97,897.12

APRIL Finance report with BUMP Update:

The Finance Team has good news to all who fill MUMC pews:
 Our finances are stable, expenses kept low
 Apportionments at 28% - WAY TO GO!
 Yet at April's end the year is one-third through
 So we are a little behind in paying what's due.
 In the Network Team meeting a plan was made
 To help ensure all apportionments get paid
 The amount due now is a very small lump
 So before it becomes a major hump
 We can wipe it out with a quick jump
 If most folks can give an extra BUMP
 20% have answered the call
 That BUMP is helping! Thanks, y'all!
 As the year unfolds please keep this in mind
 Lifting MUMC in prayer will be most kind,
 And if you find that you are able
 Give a BUMP in your giving to help keep us stable.

Update on BUMP giving:
 * The "extra BUMP giving" to support the general budget was launched in March. It was decided that a direct appeal would be a better approach this year than an all-church fundraising event.
 *To date about 20% of people have responded (20 people who can give a BUMP, and 5 who let us know they are unable to help in this way this year.)
 * This is our all-church fundraiser for the rest of 2012, so there is still time for the other 80% to respond. We will continue to give updates each month.
 *BUMP giving has raised over \$7000 between cash-in-hand and pledges (which is about twice what we raised at the Fall Festival Fundraiser last October)
 Thank you so much for supporting the ministries of MUMC! If you have not yet participated in the BUMP giving, please consider doing so now. (Even if your financial situation at this time is tight and you cannot give a bump, please let us know that as well. It helps in our planning.)
 BUMP giving forms are on the counter in the church office.

Memorial On The Internet

Did you know can substitute any of the alias addresses below for www.mem-umc.org?

www.memumc.net (easier to type)

www.clovismumc.org

Did you know that you can listen to sermons at www.mem-umc.org/sermons?

Did you know that you can watch the 9:30 and 11_00 Sunday service LIVE on Sundays (or recorded) at www.mem-umc.org/live

Did you know that you can watch the 9:30 and 11:00 services LIVE (or recorded) on your iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch by installing the "Ustream" app and searching for "MemorialUMC"?

**Hmong family camp is for everyone!****(Aug. 2-4)**

The Conference Committee on Hmong Ministry will be hosting their annual summer Family Camp at Oroville UMC, beginning after dinner on Thursday, August 2 and running through the morning of August 4.

There will be programs in Hmong and in English, with shared meals and games.

The Basic Lay Speaking course will be taught in Hmong by Xifu Paul Joseph, and in English by Pastor Janette.

The cost for this camp is \$20 per person, with a maximum of \$100 per family. Contact the church office to register.

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Church Friends,

A Big, Big, Thank You to all my Boutique friends for their Get Well Greetings on yet another illness of foot surgery and Shingles. Thank You so much, all of you!

And to the Wednesday Bible Study Group, Thank You for the wonderful cards you sent for my health problems and the anniversary card for LeRoy and I. Thank You so very very much!

A very Special Thank You to Norma Meeks for her calls and letters. She is such a Joy and Dear Friend. I Thank God for all these precious and special people in my life who care about what happens to everyone in the Church, I am Truly Blessed. Thank you one and all.

Ruth Ehresman

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH GROUP PARABLES:

Once there was a young orphan girl who wandered into the desert and became lost. She had with her four quarters – all of the money she possessed. A man found her wandering there and offered to tell her the way back to the city if she would give him one of her quarters. She agreed, and handed him one of her precious quarters. “Go around this hill in a clockwise direction” he said, “and you will happen upon your city. She followed his direction, but soon happened upon him again. “Did you not heed my directions!?” he questioned her “I will direct you home another way if you will give me another quarter.” She agreed, parted with her money once again, and was soon on

her way around the hill again, this time in a counterclockwise direction, only to find herself back in the place she had started. “Do I have to draw you a map?” he cruelly asked “Give me another quarter and I will send you home another way.” “But sir” the young girl replied “I have but four quarters to my name, and you have already taken two of them.” “Do you want to find your way home, or not?” the man queried. The girl once again agreed, and found herself in a figure eight path over and around the hill, only to end up at the strangers mercy once more. “They must not teach following directions in school anymore!” the man exclaimed “Give me your last quarter and I will send you on a fool

proof path to your home.” Before the girl could speak, the earth shook, and the sand began to swirl. A great cloud of it gathered into the shape of a man and spoke. “You evil man! How dare you prey on the innocent trust of this child! Repay her all that you took from her, and see that she gets to her city, or you will find yourself wandering lost in the desert for the rest of your days!” The man, quickly seeing that four quarters was not worth his life, did as the spirit in the desert asked, and once the girl was back in her city, she did not see or hear from him ever again.



A dude walked up the mountain of intelligence, and saw a man sitting at the top. He asked him “Why do you sit there when the world is in need of your talents? The man answered “I have determined that only those who can climb this mountain are worthy of my wisdom. You are the first. What is it that you desire to know?” The dude responded, saying “Would you agree that the most worthy are those in need?” The guru answered “I agree.” The dude replied “Those in need cannot climb this mountain.”



SSP 2012 IS ALMOST HERE!

Our second SSP trip will be July 1-7 in South Los Angeles. We will stay at the Rakestraw Community Center in the Vermont Square neighborhood, and work on homes and community centers in the surrounding area. Typical homeowners are elderly people who have lived in the area for decades. Projects include painting, building wheelchair ramps, building community gardens, and repairing drywall. We will also be learning about the community, the challenges that the people there face, and how we can do something about it. Please pray for those who will be going from MUMC and other churches, the Sierra Service Project team members we will be working with, and those who live in the Vermont Square area that we will get to meet!

FROM THE PASTOR

Update on the decisions from the Lent Study group: How to help MUMC become even better!

Reading a recipe for a cake can spark interest or even excitement.

TASTING a cake is a far more effective way to encourage folks to want another bite! Likewise, reading a report about what can be done to improve ministry CAN draw interest, but having opportunities to actually experience and participate in ministry can be a more effective way to generate interest! Nonetheless, I will endeavor to write a summary here of some ideas that are actually really exciting! You will have opportunities to actually experience some, perhaps ALL of these ideas as the months unfold. Feel free to talk with me about any questions you have, or invite me to come talk with your ministry group.

It is important to say from the outset that there are LOTS of good things about MUMC. There are ways that what is good can be made better.

A big question is, what changes and/or improvements can we make that will be most helpful to us as we live out the mission of the United Methodist Church? (The mission of the UMC is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.)

More than a dozen people gathered during Lent working together to discern a healthy way forward for congregation. Through weekly times of study, prayer, Christian conferencing and reflection, the group became convinced that MUMC needs to become systemically intentional about spiritual formation.

Here is how we decided to define "spiritual formation":

**GROWING in LOVE -
LOVING ENOUGH** to move out of our comfort zone for the sake of the gospel.

How, then, do we become intentional about growing in love? How do we build that intentionality into the basic operating system of our congregation? The following recommendations are made:

- ** Implement a "small group ministry" approach to being a congregation.
- ** Train up all members of the congregation to be able to take some role of leadership
- ** Develop a series of "basic" courses to help strengthen foundational understandings (i.e.: bible basics, basics of UM history, basic Wesley, intro to spiritual disciplines, basic of prayer, etc.)
- ** Encourage EVERY member of MUMC yearly to be sure to engage in at least one opportunity to grow in each of the 3 H's :
 - ~~ Head - theologically informed
 - ~~ Heart - spiritually transformed
 - ~~ Hands - serving in the world
- ** Undergird everything in prayer
- ** Launch a book club using a "small group ministry" approach.

The book club is launching! We thank Edie Dyer for her passion and commitment in 1) traveling to Kansas last September to receive training in doing small group ministry and 2) for organizing and recruiting participants. Way to go, Edie!

You will be hearing much more on the rest of these recommendations in the coming months. If you would like to get involved NOW in this work, talk with me, or anyone from the Lenten study group. We are hoping that by this fall we will all have the opportunity to EXPERIENCE many other recommendations becoming part of our regular approach to making disciples - of others and of ourselves.

-js

Memorial United
 Methodist
 Church of Clovis
 1726 Pollasky Ave

CHURCH PHONE: 559-299-4615
 CHURCH E-MAIL: memumc@mem-umc.org

May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
20 10:30am Combined Service 6pm Ice Cream 7:30pm Concert	21	22	23 *1pm Wesley Circle	24	25	26
27 *4pm Network	28 *4:30pm Ad Support *7p Youth Board	29 8am Thrift Shop work day W. Jurisdiction Korean Miss. Conf	30	31 7pm Concert		