



Good News!

The newsletter of the Memorial United Methodist Church of Clovis

May 2005

Micah Ministries

Local & World Missions

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

(Micah 6:6)

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY OFFERING

Seeing the face of Christ in others is not easy, but it is a commitment that the Rev. Deanna “Dee” Stickley-Miner embraces and encourages. As co-founder of Faith Communities Uniting for Peace, the United Methodist clergywoman works with Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs “to live from a vision of peace rooted in faith.”

Your offering on Peace with Justice Sunday helps the children of God everywhere to live lovingly and peacefully. Half of the offering supports peace with justice ministries globally through the General Board of Church and Society, and half assists annual conference-related work such as Faith Communities Uniting for Peace in West Ohio.

“Live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you,” wrote the apostle Paul to the church in Corinth. Help to bring peace and justice to a hurting world. Please give generously on Peace with Justice Sunday, the first Sunday after Pentecost. Your gift makes a world of difference!

DO NOT CALL LIST

Just a reminder, in a few weeks, cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls. You will be charged for these calls. Call this number from your cell phone (or any phone you want blocked) 888-382-1222. It is the National DO NOT CALL list. It only takes a minute of your time. It blocks your number for 5 years. Please pass this on to everyone you know who doesn't want to be hassled. The Attorney General's office also has a website for your convenience: DONOTCALL.gov. The website will accommodate three telephone numbers.

THANK YOU NOTES

The Goldens wish to thank everyone for their care and concern during Wayne's recent surgery. Special thanks to Laurie Hill who came and sat with us a very long time. The surgery was supposed to start at 1:30; finally took him in at 4:45. Thanks for the many cards and calls.

Wayne and Shirley Golden.

Dear All, I just wanted to express my appreciation for the beautiful dedication this past Sunday (April 10), for the first step in your landscaping plan. We were certainly blessed with a sunny and a perfect setting for gathering and refreshments. It is wonderful to be part of something that brings a new freshness and awareness to your church. I personally felt delighted when I saw how quickly the plants have taken to their new home! They're just growing with all their hearts! It is almost like they are saying "Look at me, look at me!" I have planted the lovely New Zealand Tea shrub in my back yard in the place where I lost a Crepe Myrtle last year. It looks like it should have always been planted there. Whenever I see it, I have thoughts of a loving and generous church and its family.

It will be a true joy to work with you on your next phase! The church grounds are plentiful and inviting. There are some wonderful areas that can be absolutely beautiful, full of fragrance and color. Isn't it exciting?

With love, Karen Faulkner

TRUSTEES REPORT

At the March Meeting, the Board reviewed several projects that still remained on the records – cleaning, canceling, or continuing those items. The Board referred to committee the proposal of a new staff person as custodian. The committee is Rick Hutchinson, Jean Hill, and Mac Magargee. Please divulge your suggestions to these members. Thanks for your church concerns.

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FRESNO DISTRICT LAY SPEAKER SCHOOL

Fresno District Lay Speaker School is May 15, 22, and 29 from 2 pm to 6 pm each afternoon. This Lay Speaking ministry will offer the Basic Course, and the Advance Course. This "school" is for those just beginning and those wanting to take the advance courses. Each person applying for the basic course needs their church's recommendation. Those taking the advance course must have taken the basic course. All will prepare and deliver a 10-15 minute message. The fee is \$20 for the basic course and \$35 for the advance course. The fees include all the materials and snacks. The School will be held at the Lemoore UMC. You can register by calling the church, by mail or by e-mail at pastorthom@cvip.net. You can also have the School at your church.

Worship Ministry

News from the teams that support the Sunday worship services.

*"Make a joyful noise to the LORD...
Serve the Lord with gladness!" (Psalm 100)*



Music Notes

FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

For more information about our Chime Choir, Fellowship of the Ring, please contact Janette Erickson or Connie Alfaro. All are invited to come.

SING UNTO THE LORD!

The choir is always welcoming new voices. All who would like to sing are invited to join us in rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Care Ministries

Giving Special Care to Others

SPECIAL FRIENDS TEAM REPORT

April 10 Meeting

Pastor Denice Leslie, Minnie Eller, Evelyn Haulman and Laurence Hill gathered in the Lose Library. For our "continuous education" and worship we read around the room a piece called "I was sick and you visited me", e.g. "I was afraid and you listened to my fears and I felt relieved to talk to you."

The Grief Recovery Group is now meeting on the First Tuesday of the Month from 11:00 to noon in the Lose Library. Anyone dealing with loss is invited to join us for informal discussion. You may contact John Tallmadge, Gil Stocks or the church office..

We reported on at least 16 visits, 20 telephone calls and 46 cards and notes sent, in addition to Denice' pastoral work. We prayed for persons with a broken arm, Parkinson's, macular degeneration, oncoming death, osteoporosis, heart attack and stuck home with illness.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 10 at 1:30 P.M. in the Lose Library. Everyone is invited.

Laurie Hill, Coordinator

Congregational Life

News of the church life and the groups that meet for fellowship and support.

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them." Matthew 18:30*

BOUTIQUE NEWS

The Boutique Group is pleased to announce that we were able to buy 118 new folding chairs for the Social Hall with some of our proceeds from last year's Sale. They have padded seats and backs. Very comfortable! Thank you all for your support and we look forward to another great sale this year on November 11 and 12.

MISSION THRIFT SHOP

Please bring your donations to the west end door of the Thrift Shop (next to the parking lot) on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

Thank you, Janet Bonzo

THURSDAY POTLUCK

May 5 – "Cinco De Mayo" (5th of May). Let's do what they do in Mexico, dress up and celebrate this holiday. Bring your favorite Mexican dish. It's birthday week – Dorrie bakes the birthday cake.

May 12 – Mom's favorite dish. In honor of Mother's Day, bring a dish that you remember your mom making.

May 19 – "I CAN WITH SPAM". A good old WWII delight. Let's see how creative you can be.

May 26 – Memorial Weekend. Tonight we honor the Military. Regular potluck, but bring a picture of you or a loved one who served in the armed forces.

Reminder: These are only suggestions. You can bring whatever you like. If you have a hobby or something you'd like to share, bring it for joys and concerns.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

May 2 – Board meeting, 9 am Library
May 11 – Red Bird Circle, 9:30 am, Library
May 17 – Regular meeting, 10 am, Social Hall. Program on Missions. Red Bird will host luncheon. Bring your own service. Everyone Welcome!
May 25 – Wesley Circle, 1 pm, Social Hall

GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP

All are welcome to our Grief Recovery Group, now meeting monthly on the first Tuesday, 11 am to noon, beginning April 5th.

ATTENDANCE & FINANCE STATISTICS

February 2005

Attendance Total 608 (Weekly Average 152)
Hmong Attendance Total 300
(Weekly Average 75)
Total Attendance 908
Total Weekly Average Attendance 227

March 2005

Attendance Total 601 (Weekly Average 151)
Hmong Attendance Total 213
(Weekly Average 66)
Total Attendance 867
Total Weekly Average Attendance 217
Total Offering \$16,565
Needed for Budget \$18,076

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND

It is no secret that our church has a Permanent Endowment Fund, nor is it a secret that we need to add to it by our gifts. We accept gifts of any monetary amount and pool them into our growing Permanent Endowment fund. We also accept gifts of real estate or stocks or bonds, too. If you would like to learn more about how to give to our permanent Endowment Fund, please speak with Rick Hutchinson or John Tallmadge.



Sunday
School

Christian Education

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable."

CHILDREN'S & ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 a.m.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

"The Left mocks the Right. The Right knows it's right. Two ugly traits. How far should we go to try to understand each other's point of view? Maybe the distance grace covered on the cross is a clue."
Bono, lead singer of U2

A new adult class on Jim Wallis' book, God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It, will meet in Pastor Denice's office at 9:00 beginning Sunday, April 24th. Kim Leslie will lead discussion of the New York Times bestseller by the Sojourner's community leader and columnist that's becoming a catalyst for a new movement. Please call or stop by the office if you'd like a copy of the book at a special discount price.

YOUTH CALENDAR

Sunday, May 1, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Sunday Night at the Movies (Bungalow)
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Love is Patient Session 5 (Library)
Saturday, May 7, 8:00 - 12:00 p.m. Youth Poverello Work Day
Sunday, May 8, NO YOUTH MEETING - Happy Mother's Day!
Friday, May 13, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Concert at Kuppajoe's
Sunday, May 15, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Youth Meeting (Bungalow)
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Love is Patient Session 6 (Library)
Sunday, May 22, 5:30 p.m. Love is Patient Ceremony and Reception (Sanctuary)
Sunday, May 29, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Youth Meeting (Bungalow)

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

The Love is Patient Class of 2005 will celebrate their commitment to abstinence on Sunday, May 22, 2005, at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. These young people have spent the last six weeks studying Scripture and discussing God's plan for healthy Christian relationships, which has led them to a prayerful choice regarding their own abstinence until marriage. The whole church family is invited to bless this commitment with their presence at a service and cookie reception.

CONCERT AT KUPPAJOES MAY 13

Yes, it's Friday the 13th, but lucky for us, there's a great indie rock concert happening at Kuppajoes to chase away the bad vibes! All youth grades 7-12 are invited - FRIENDS ARE WELCOME! We'll meet at the church at 7:00 p.m. and head out to Kuppajoes at First and Dakota. The cost is \$5.00, plus extra bucks for sodas or snacks. We'll leave the concert at 10:00 p.m. A flyer and permission slip will be available in the Narthex.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL-- SUMMERTIME WITH GOD!

It's almost that wonderful time of year again! The Lazy-hazy days of summer time fun, melons, home-grown tomatoes, swimming, barbeques, friends, family and vacations--early morning and late summer evening strolls, lemonade and sun tea... fishing! The beach! The lake! Camping!

HOW ABOUT SUMMER SUNDAYS WITH GOD IN SUNDAY SCHOOL?_Our children's Summer Sunday School for K-6th grade will run from Sunday June 5 through July 31. 9 Sundays of summer fun, fellowship and learning at the regular Sunday School hour 9 a.m. The theme this summer is built around the things of summer and bible stories. We will have all ages together. We need adults and youth and young adults to pick a Sunday and a topic below and sign up with Pastor Denice. You may go solo or find a friend, do it as a family or a team. You may sign up for one or more Sundays. If something comes up this summer when you want to be away you may trade a Sunday.



Pastor Laurie has already selected "Fishing with Jesus." Here are the dates and you may select any topic for your date as there is no special order. I will have a workshop for summer lesson planning at 5:15 p.m. on Sunday May 15. Questions? Call Pastor Denice. Sign up in the church lobby starts Sunday May 1.

June 5, 12, 19, 26 and July 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.

KICK-OFF POOL PARTY AND POTLUCK at Pastor Denice's house on Sunday June 5 at 3 p.m.

SUMMER TIME WITH GOD TOPICS:

- "Surf and Sand in the Old and New Testament"
- "Picnics and BBQ on the Beach with Jesus"

- "Summer Fires in the Old and New Testament"
- "Fishing with Jesus" --Pastor Laurence Hill
- "Friends of Jesus and Paul"
- "Summer Trip Adventures with Jesus and Paul"
- "Stories Around the Campfire in the Bible"
- "Feasting with Jesus"
- "A Mountain Hike with Jesus"
- "Summer New Releases--The Ten Commandments" (The film can be used for this lesson--if so sign up for at least two, preferably three Sundays.)
- "Lotion--God's Anointing of King David"



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL POOL PARTY AND POTLUCK

Come one, come all to Pastor Leslie's on Sunday afternoon, June 5 at 3 p.m. Bring a food item to share and some meat for the BBQ. Beverages and table service provided. If you like to swim bring your suit and towel. The Leslie's have several yard umbrellas now so we won't be blistering in the sun! Those who don't care for the heat may eat indoors in the Sun Room. Please RSVP to Pastor Denice.

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP ANYONE?

It is time to plan some fellowship summer events. If you are interested in any of the following speak with Pastor Denice: Ice cream social, weekend church campout at the beach or in the mountains, an all church early evening potluck and hymn sing, talent show, a video movie and discussion for adults using the film "Jesus of Montreal." Last summer we enjoyed Outdoor Friday Night at the Movies appropriate for the whole family. This would be a great activity to invite the neighborhood to via a door hanger to our local neighbors.