

# 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

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### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday: 7 pm (in the Fellowship Hall)

Good Friday: 6:30 pm @ Academy

Easter Day: 7 a.m. "Sunrose" @ Academy

9:30 a.m. Imagine! Worship service

(10:30 a.m. Egg Hunt)

11 a.m. Traditional service

12:30 p.m. Potluck lunch @ Academy

2:00 p.m. Service @ Academy

More information about these services is in the 'Upcoming Events' section of the Good News.



### DISTRICT LEARNING EVENT IN MADERA

Saturday, April 14, 2012 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (Registration 9:30 a.m.)

Madera UMC, 500 Sunset Avenue, Madera, CA 93637

Join Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr., Conference and District Superintendents, and other clergy and laity at this event, for a time of re-connecting with our passion for Jesus Christ and our compassion for all; exploration of resources available to each church to help it fulfill its part in God's mission; and learning from one another about creating clear, simple disciple-making movements and innovative ways to create new places for new people. Reconnect with your passion for Jesus Christ and your compassion for all. Join us on April 14 for a day of being, seeing, and doing what matters to God! Sign up today at [www.cnumc.org/register](http://www.cnumc.org/register). Lunch will be served.

### MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH: PLEASE INVITE A 'MOTHER IN THE FAITH' TO COME WITH

YOU! All women are invited to the MUMC Mother's Day lunch on Sunday, May 13 after the second service (around noon). The Staff Parish Relations Committee is hosting the lunch and Chef Matt Babcock has an appetizing menu in mind. Everyone is welcome! Mothers: please ask your family to escort you to this fun second Sunday lunch when they inquire about what your favorite place to eat "out". Or if you would like to invite a "mother in the faith", don't hesitate; we're sure she will be thrilled. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex starting the Sunday after Easter so we can plan for a wonderful



## Upcoming Events

### WESTERN JURISDICTION KOREAN MISSION CONFERENCE & CONCERT:

Everyone is invited to register for this inspiring and fun event May 29-31. There will be speakers and workshops (most will be in English), a trip to Yosemite, a banquet dinner, and a concert! Only \$50 to register. Please contact the office to sign up (559-

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

- \*Palm Sunday is April 1: we will be celebrating within our regularly scheduled services.
- \*Maundy Thursday is April 5: we will be having a service at 7pm in the Social Hall. Continuing with last year's theme, we will have a missionary share with us about how God is moving in other parts of the world. This year our Maundy Thursday service guest speaker will be Warren McGuffin. Mr. McGuffin will share with us about the ongoing UMMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers In Mission) work in Haiti. The evening will be inspiring - everyone will want to attend!
- \*Good Friday is April 6: we will join Academy UMC for a service that evening, at 6:30 pm.
- \*Easter Sunday is April 8: There will be a sunrise service at Academy Church at 7am, celebrations at MUMC during our regularly scheduled worship times (and no second Sunday lunch so that everyone can enjoy time with their families) and more celebration at Academy church, with a picnic at 12:30 pm and service at 2pm in the afternoon. Our "Easter Offering" this year will be used to help send members of our congregation on an UMMVIM trip next year (perhaps to Haiti or to Mexico).

**UMM RETREAT** UMM has been discussing the possibilities of holding a retreat sometime in the spring. Initial plans are to reach out to the other churches in the event there is any interest there to attend. The committee will be meeting soon to work out the details and, once that is completed, a date will be set and information will be disseminated. We have tentatively selected April 21st."

### ACADEMY CHURCH SERVICES

Apr 6 Good Friday services at 6:30 pm

April 8 Easter Sunrise service at 7 am, potluck at 12:30 and Easter service at 2

May 19, 2012 at 10 am "Saturday, Yes Saturday" Armed Forces Day Services. \*Critical meeting following with a brunch. If you would like to be involved on behalf of the Academy church and it's future, you need to make this meeting \*

-Submitted by Harriet Schiavon



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JULY 31:** Our Annual FOF (Fun on the Fifth) Party is coming up on the fifth Sunday of July; get ready to celebrate the Goofy Olympics in a fun filled evening for all ages! Mark your calendars, and look for more details to come.

**PENTECOST CELEBRATION ALL DAY LONG!** We will have a combined service Sunday morning May 20 at 10:30 a.m. led by the students of our 2012 confirmation class. A highlight of this service will be receiving these young people into full membership in MUMC.

That evening we celebrate our second annual ice cream social at 6:00 p.m. and multicultural concert at 7:30 p.m. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this exciting event!

### **UPCOMING PTO EVENTS:**

PTO Bowling on Palm Sunday April 1 – See Andy for more details

PTO Earth Day Activity April 29 – see Mike for more details

PTO Sailing trip May 6 – see Mike for more details



**CHANGE THE WORLD WEEKEND AT POVORELLO HOUSE** This year, we will work on a special project at the Povorello House on Saturday, May 19 during the United Methodist's 'Change the World' weekend event. Mark your calendars and please plan to join us in changing the world!

## April and May Birthdays

Louise Buckley 04/05	Robin Holleman 05/02	Marjorie Ludwig 05/30
Deena Crosslin 04/05	Stan Jenanyan 05/02	George Grimsley 05/31
Art Daly 04/09	Joan Pregno 05/02	Starla Moua 05/31
Howard Vollman 04/09	Wang Cheng Moua 05/03	Helen Ring 05/31
Kayte VanDeMark 04/11	Ka Thow 05/03	Chai Yang 06/01
LeRoy (Mac) Magargee 04/12	John Kenyon 05/06	Vu Yang 06/01
Kurt Cline 04/14	Becky Posey 05/08	Katherine Dickinson 06/02
Bob Spencer 04/14	Uchei# Uwaoma 05/08	Velda House 06/02
Yer Cha Vang 04/14	Chue Yang 05/08	Mai Thao Hang 06/04
Yer Cha Yang 04/14	Janet Abbott 05/09	Brian Jennison 06/05
Betty Wipf 04/16	Dorothy Carr 05/09	Dorothy Sinclair 06/07
Kylee# Pachelbel 04/17	Janet Bonzo 05/12	Joy Cole 06/08
Ashley Simpson 04/17	Baoui Her 05/12	Bonnie Harkins 06/10
Alissa Williams 04/17	Kaylene Snow 05/12	Gao Ly Vang 06/10
Sharee Woxell 04/17	Selphine Moua 05/15	Tony Vang 06/10
Norma Meek 04/19	Jennifer Carlos 05/16	Gao Ly Yang 06/10
Angelina Moua 04/19	Chua Hang 05/18	Choua Yang 06/10
Eleanor Patton-Knudson 04/19	Nao Thao 05/19	Pai Yang 06/10
Ian Goudelock 04/20	Betty Gist 05/20	Dahlia Thao 06/11
Gilbert Stocks 04/20	Emma Hansen-Smith 05/20	Luella Bailey 06/13
Benjamin Zastovnik 04/21	Owen Glazebrook 05/21	Addy Vang 06/15
Joyce Ladd 04/24	Sue Yang 05/21	Jacob Her 06/18
Joshua Yang 04/24	Roberto Carlos 05/22	Ka Khang 06/20
Joshua Yang 04/24	Jean Lenderman 05/26	Katelyn Her 06/23
Kathryn Cannon 04/25	Laura Williams 05/26	Barbara Nielsen 06/23
Ethel Schwartz 04/25	Wilma Hayes 05/27	Julianne Thao 06/26
Jennifer Yang 04/27	Ella Mae# Innerarity 05/27	Kou Yang 06/29
Alex Jennison 04/30	Foua Yang 05/27	Dona Leonardo 06/30
William Nicholls 05/01		Madeline Williams 06/30

**YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TEAM AT WORK**

An Information Gathering Committee has been formed to - yep you got it - gather information and we are asking for your help. We need your suggestions, ideas and thoughts about changes or improvements to the Fellowship Hall, or the Kitchen and/or the Sunday School Rooms. In an effort to provide an organized approach to dealing with suggestions, AST has formed this committee to gather your ideas and combine them with needed maintenance projects. The goal: a list of needs, desires and the costs so that a plan might be developed to accomplish them. If you or your group has ever wanted to see changes made to the building, now is the time to express these ideas. We are only gathering ideas of how to make the space that we have fit our needs; we are not asking for funding. Feel free to share your insights with Guin Jenanyan, Carole Schweitzer, Cecil or Dona Leonardo - they will gladly hear your ideas! Or you can write down your ideas, include your name and turn them into the office. If you have any questions; feel free to contact Carole Schweitzer 299-3432 or [carole.schweitzer@att.net](mailto:carole.schweitzer@att.net).

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE/GENERAL CONFERENCE**

Every four years the United Methodist denomination holds a world-wide conference to make decisions for the entire denomination. This is the year for our "General Conference" which will meet in Tampa, Florida beginning at the end of April. The conference will continue for two weeks and will deal with a HOST of issues, including a possible restructuring of the denomination and de-centralizing our connectional relationship. Please pray NOW for the UM denomination as a whole, and particularly for wisdom and guidance for the delegates to General Conference.

Who are these delegates? How are they chosen to attend the General Conference? At the Annual Conference Session last June the California/Nevada Annual Conference elected 14 delegates to attend the General Conference this year. This gives the delegates ten months to prepare for the HUGE task of reading through REAMS of proposed legislation and attend pre-conference meetings so that they can make well-informed decisions. The General Conference assigns the total number of delegates to each Annual Conference based on membership totals. Our conference is sending 14: 7 clergy and 7 "lay" (non-clergy) delegates.

The balloting for the delegates is rather complex and often takes 10 or more ballots. Once the General Conference delegates are selected, we then elected an additional 20 delegates to attend the Jurisdictional Conference, which will be in July. At that Meeting Bishops will be elected and assigned.

The balloting for delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference happened in the most AMAZING way last June! The voting took just 3 ballots! It was a shock! Those of us who have been through the process several times anticipate MUCH time will be devoted to the distribution, marking, collecting, counting, recording, reporting, etc. Not last year! It was a record fast process, for which we were all grateful!

**BE SURE TO SEE THE CAMELLIAS** in the prayer gardens. Many thanks to Howard Vollman for his faithful care and to master gardener Nancy Heberlein for her advice. –Helen Tashjian



**UNFORGETTABLE:**

On April 21<sup>st</sup> at Woodward Park, a group of 'Unforgettables' will be walking for a cure for Multiple Sclerosis. We'd like you to join us and to offer your financial support for this worthy cause to help end MS forever. –Lorraine May

**PEACE LIBRARY**

As Pastor Janette and others have been studying peace this year, books and articles have accumulated. These are now available to check out – if you would like to browse the library and check out a book, see the counter in the front office.

**LENTEN STUDY 2012**

We have a good group of people gathering each Tuesday evening for a soup supper, Bible reflection, and "Christian conferencing" (prayerful conversation) about the ministries of MUMC and how we, as a congregation, can become more intentional about spiritual growth. Good food, good people, good discussions - an excellent experience! By the end of Lent we will have developed goals and recommendations that will be brought to the larger congregation in the coming months. Please keep this in your prayers.

**LENTEN "THANK BANKS"**

At our Ash Wednesday service and the first Sunday of Lent we received "Thank Banks" to be used throughout the season of Lent to keep our focus on how God bathes us in love each day. Also, we were asked to spend quiet time each day with God, and to offer prayers:

Remembering how amazing is our God

Giving thanks for blessings

Lifting up concerns

Lifting up the ministries of MUMC

Lifting up the ministries of our denomination - particularly as we prepare for General Conference (held once every 4 years) which will be at the end of April.

Please continue to use your "Thank Banks", and plan to bring them on Easter Sunday as part of our Easter Offering.





Have you ever had the experience of dwelling on a situation, perhaps a problem or upcoming event, and you find yourself humming a tune or singing a song to yourself - and then comes the dawning realization that the song perfectly fits the topic on which you were dwelling?

Today the first stanza of a hymn by Samuel Wolcott is running through my brain:

Christ for the world we sing,  
the world to Christ we bring,  
with loving zeal;  
the poor, and them that mourn,  
the faint and overborne,  
sinsick and sorrow-worn,  
whom Christ doth heal.



I have been thinking about United Methodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM). I have been thinking about our youth setting an example for all of us to give of our time and resources to GO to those in need and give help and encouragement. Sometimes people ask the question, "Isn't it better to save the cost of travel and send all the money to those in need?" There is certainly a time when that is the best course of action. Other times, taking aid to people is the best response.

It reminds me of the story of a young child whose parents were doing their best to raise their child to trust in God. One night there was a violent storm raging in the region where the family lived. As the lightening flashed and thunder shook the house the child crept down the hallway and slipped into the parents' bed. The parents wanted to be nurturing, but also felt this was a good "teaching moment."

"You don't need to be afraid," they reminded their child. "God is always with you."

"I know," replied the child. "But tonight I needed God with skin on."

Through UMVIM and similar programs we can truly be "the body of Christ for the world today." We can be God's love "with skin on." With loving zeal we take Christ to the world and bring the world to Christ. Traveling to different areas - whether around the corner, across town, or half a world away - we can walk alongside those whose lives are being crushed through the worst hardships of life.

the poor, and them that mourn,  
the faint and overborne,  
sinsick and sorrow-worn

It can be nice to receive money. But sometimes having human companionship as you pass through a time of great

hardship is priceless. The knowledge that someone cares enough to use their resources to travel to you and give you a hug and help you through the tough times is a tangible expression of God's love. It is real. God with skin on. The body of Christ for the world today.

We are approaching Holy Week: a time when we prayerfully walk with Jesus through adoration to betrayal to supreme victory. What does this mean for our lives and the world 2000 years later? What does it mean to celebrate the feast of liberation, then to hang on a cross, then to rise above death? One thing it means for sure, our God is Awesome! As we accept more and more fully into our lives the healing and freedom Christ offers us, God can transform even our bleakest moments into glorious triumph and blessing for all! Last year at the Maundy Thursday service Kennedy Cruz shared with us about UM mission work in Cambodia. This year Warren McGuffin will share with us about UMVIM work in Haiti. We will be blessed to learn about the ways in which God is using ordinary folks and local congregations to bring Christ's healing presence to an island nation struggling with multiple layers of hardship. We will participate in the feast of liberation - holy communion - and open ourselves to be used by God to bring Christ's healing to our neighborhoods, community, and world. Not everyone can journey to a far off land to be "God with skin on," but all of us working together CAN be used by God to bring Christ's healing and blessings throughout the world.

Christ for the world we sing,  
the world to Christ we bring,  
with loving zeal;  
the poor, and them that mourn,  
the faint and overborne,  
sinsick and sorrow-worn,  
whom Christ doth heal.

This year's Easter Offering will be used to help send members of our congregation on an international UMVIM trip in 2013 (perhaps Haiti or Mexico). Our God is AWESOME! We are dreaming dreams worthy of such an amazing God! We CAN become the body of Christ for the world today!

Together we CAN be used by God to bring new life and blessing to those who are struggling with tremendous hardship.

"And now to our God, who, by the power at work within us, is able to accomplish far more abundantly than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus our Lord to all generations forever. Amen." (Eph. 3:20-21)

## YOUTH NEWS

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### YOUTH CALENDAR:

SUNDAY MARCH 25- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM

YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY APRIL 1- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY APRIL 8- EASTER SUNDAY - ENJOY YOUR FAMILIES!!

FRIDAY APRIL 13 - LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FOR SSP!!

SUNDAY APRIL 15- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM YOUTH GROUP

SATURDAY APRIL 21- 10 AM POVORELLO HOUSE WORKDAY

SUNDAY APRIL 22- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY APRIL 29- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY MAY 6- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY MAY 13- MOTHER'S DAY

SATURDAY MAY 19- 10:00 AM POVORELLO HOUSE

SUNDAY MAY 20- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY MAY 27- 5:15 PM MUSIC REHEARSAL, 6PM YOUTH GROUP

SATURDAY JUNE 2- CAR SHOW/FUN RUN

**THE SPECIAL FRIENDS** group met February 9<sup>th</sup>. We sang a song of the season: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross. Our meditation was on a look at Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, and ends 40 days later, on Holy Saturday. The number 40 is significant because at the start of his ministry, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness, fasting, praying and resisting temptation from the devil. The season of Lent is a time when we prepare our hearts, minds and souls for the sacred observance of Christ's death on Good Friday and his resurrection Easter Sunday. In Lent we recognize we are simply dust and ashes without Christ, we confess our sins to God, and we follow Christ to the cross, where we are made whole again. In January and February we made 40 visits in homes and hospitals, sent 26 cards, wrote 13 letters and made 69 phone calls to church friends. From the wilderness, what steps are you taking with Christ on his journey to the cross? Be a Friend and join us when we meet April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. Blessings, Lorraine May.

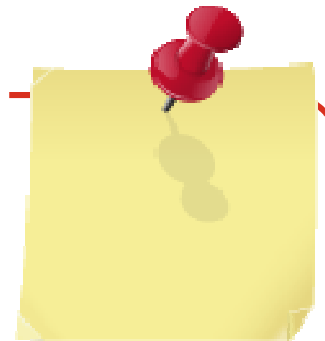
## TEAMS AND MINISTRIES

## NOTES

**WITH SINCERE THANKS:** Thank you to all who were there during Mom's stay in the Hospital and all who brought food to her Memorial service. Also, thank you for all the cards thoughts and prayers during that time. - Deena Crosslin, daughter of Louise Smith

**TO MY FAMILY AT MUMC:** I have been so blessed to work here in the secretary position (almost 5 years!) at Memorial UMC - I have grown in ways that are immeasurable. At this point in my life, I have reexamined my priorities, and have realized that time with my family is extremely important, and I do not have enough of it at this point. Blake and I have prayed over this matter for a while, and we have decided that it's best if I resign from the secretary position as of April 6. I will be staying on as youth director, however, and will be involved in church activities, too. Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to come here to MUMC 5 years ago - I will be forever thankful. -Sara

**A NOTE OF THANKS:** The Family of Connie Smith Alfaro is very grateful for the love and support given by all of you at Memorial, at the passing of Jon Alfaro, to her and their sons. His Memorial service, and the reception following are now our cherished memories. Thanks to you all.

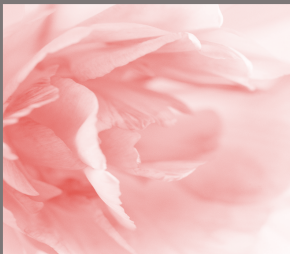

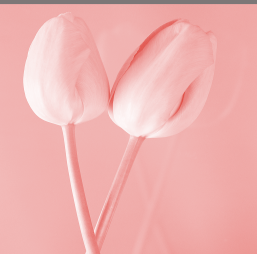


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*March 2012*

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
25  *4pm Network	26  *7p Youth Board *7pm Ad Support	27	28  *1pm Wesley Circle	29	30	31
						



**February Financial Summary:** Through the second month of 2012, our finances are still good! We paid our property insurance for an entire year in one lump sum to avoid finance charges. Also, we paid 3 months of pension and 3 months of health insurance and are awaiting reimbursement from outside sources on four bills we paid up front. With all that, we had to borrow from our own designated funds less than \$2000. **This is excellent!** (So far in March our income is good, and we have received a few reimbursements, so we anticipate that soon we can return to the designated funds all that we borrowed.)

**Apportionments:** In February we paid the apportionment line item "Episcopal Fund" for the entire year: \$1431.

General Fund Balance 12/31/11	\$5,838.59
General Fund income through February	\$42,271.79
Total available for expenditures	\$48,110.38
General Fund expenditures through Feb.	\$49,833.16
General Fund Balance 2/29/2012	-\$1,722.78*

\*This is the amount we borrowed from our  
designated funds

Designated income through February	\$12,459.25
Designated expenditures through Feb.	\$13,200.72
Increase (decrease) in designated funds	-\$741.47
Designated fund balance 2/29/2012	\$98,315.51

## UMW Calendar

### APRIL

April 2 – Executive Board Meets at 9am in the Lose Library

April 11 - Red Bird Circle meets at 9:30 am in the Lose Library

April 17 – Regular meeting at 10 am; we are taking a Mystery Trip! We will carpool from the church and leave by 10:30 am. Bring a friend and \$2 for lunch. We should be back to the church at about 1pm.

April 25 – Wesley Circle meets at 1pm in the Social Hall

### MAY

May 7 – Executive Board TBA

May 9 – Red Birds meet at 9:30 am in the Lose Library

May 15 – Regular Meeting at 10 am in the Social Hall

May 23 – Wesley Circle meets at 1pm in the Social Hall

# April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 *Palm Sunday  PTO Bowling	2 9a UMW Exec Board	3  6p Lenten Study	4  6:30 p Conf. Class 7p SPRC	5  7p Maundy Thurs	6 8a-2p Thrift Shop open 6:30p Good Fri Acad-	7 8a-2p Thrift Shop open 8a UMM Breakfast
8 7a Academy Service *Easter Sunday 12:30p Academy Pot-luck 2p service	9	10 8a Thrift Workday	11 9:30a Red Birds 6:30p Conf. Class 7p Lay Leadership	12  2p Special Friends	13	14 8a Yoga 9a Worship Plan *Dist. Event in Madera
15  6p Ballroom Dancing	16	17 10a UMW	18  6:30p Conf. Class 7p Finance	19	20	21  10a Youth @ Povorello House
22  4pm The Network	23  7p Youth Board 7p Ad Support	24 8a Thrift Workday	25  1p Wesley 6:30 p Conf. Class	26	27	28 8a Yoga
29  PTO Earth Day activity	30					

# May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6:30 p Conf Class 7p SPRC	3	4 8a-2p Thrift Shop open	5 8a-2p Thrift Shop open 8a UMM Breakfast
6 PTO Sailing	7 9a UMW Exec Board	8 8a Thrift Shop work- day	9 9:30a Red Birds 6:30 p Conf Class	10 2p Special Friends	11	12 8a Yoga 9a Worship plan *Wedding
13 Noon 2nd Sun lunch	14	15 10a UMW	16 6:30 p Conf Class 7p Finance	17	18	19 Change the World Weekend@ Povorello House 10a Academy Service
20 10:30 a Combined Service Pentecost Celebration 6p Ice Cream 7:30 p Concert	21	22 8a Thrift Shop work- day	23	24	25	26 8a Yoga
27 4pm The Network	28 7p Youth Board 7p Ad Support	29 8a Thrift Shop Work- day W. Jurisdiction Korean Miss Conf.	30	31 7p Concert		