

# 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



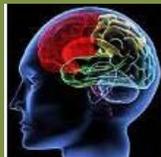
OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

559-299-4615 MEM-UMC.ORG



Watch for  
the

Head



Heart



Hand



Symbols  
to see how  
these  
ministries  
are  
targets  
to help  
your  
spiritual  
growth



Memorial United Methodist Church

## Homecoming weekend is fast approaching!

We are going to have an AWESOME weekend together! Saturday's activities will be at Academy Methodist Church 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be food, fellowship, Academy's annual boutique and tri-tip lunch, and several guest pastor's from MUMC's past.

✦ Lunch tickets are on sale now! They cost \$2 LESS when you buy them in advance!

✦ There is an insert in this newsletter with the schedule for the weekend (subject to change) on it. Please keep it handy!

✦ Stop Hunger Now meal packing event is shaping up! Please register NOW for working a shift! Turn in "thank banks" and donations on October 6. We need those 2 weeks before the event to coordinate and finalize plans!

More details can be found on the Homecoming Insert.



## November Boutique is Coming Quickly!

We hope you have your calendar marked for November 8th and 9th to attend the Boutique event. The Country Kitchen will be open with lots of goodies to enjoy. Pies, jams, fudge, and cookies and other sweets will be available to take home. And the group has been working diligently on all kinds of handmade gifts for year round and Christmas giving.

All Church members are invited to contribute their handmade items to this annual sale. And you are invited to visit with the Boutique group every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. You can bring a project you are working on or just come and chat for a while and see what others are working on. And if you need help or advice on projects that is always available.

Drawing prizes this year are a lovely handmade quilt pieced by Guin Jenanyan and hand-quilted by Mary Ettelson, a fantastic afghan made by Barbara Nielsen, and a charming 18" doll with a handmade wardrobe and accessories including a bed and chest made by Judy Eymann-Taylor. Receive 1 ticket for each dollar donated or 6 tickets for a \$5.00 donation. The drawing will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday and you need not be present to win. A delicious lunch will be served each day. Friday Stan and Guin Jenanyan and their crew will be in the kitchen and Saturday Pat Frey and friends will be serving tasty soup. Prices are very reasonable at \$8.00 on Friday and \$6.00 on Saturday. This is a good time to bring friends and family for a great start to the holiday season.

If you need further information please contact Carole Schweitzer at 299-3432 or Barbara Nielsen at 291-0935. We look forward to seeing you!

*October November Birthdays*



|             |            |       |
|-------------|------------|-------|
| Robert      | Cole       | 10/01 |
| Craig       | Eckert     | 10/02 |
| Don         | Haulman    | 10/02 |
| Sara        | Pachelbel  | 10/02 |
| Aly         | Saavedra   | 10/03 |
| Anne        | Iseli      | 10/04 |
| Tyler       | Abbott     | 10/06 |
| Wayne       | Golden     | 10/06 |
| Kou         | Hang       | 10/06 |
| Ann         | Bianchi    | 10/07 |
| Ger         | Lee        | 10/09 |
| Leonard     | Babcock    | 10/10 |
| Dhawb       | Hang       | 10/11 |
| Zack        | Stoddard   | 10/11 |
| Nancy       | Lee        | 10/15 |
| Neng        | Vang       | 10/15 |
| Gail        | Davis      | 10/16 |
| Elijah      | Glazebrook | 10/16 |
| Carolyn Ann | Pippin     | 10/19 |
| Marilyn     | Weyant     | 10/19 |
| Jim         | McClanahan | 10/20 |
| Joyce       | Lewis      | 10/24 |
| Joan        | Bowser     | 10/28 |
| Edward      | DeFranco   | 10/30 |
| Chi         | Uwaoma     | 10/30 |
| Donna       | Wamsley    | 10/30 |
| Katelin     | Williams   | 10/30 |
| Andres      | Yang       | 10/30 |
| Carol       | Febuary    | 10/31 |



|          |           |       |
|----------|-----------|-------|
| Margaret | Nicholls  | 11/05 |
| Tosh     | Cook      | 11/07 |
| Yong Yi  | Vang      | 11/08 |
| Roberta  | Coon      | 11/10 |
| Diane    | Zastovnik | 11/10 |
| Robert   | Sinclair  | 11/13 |
| Blanche  | Spencer   | 11/13 |
| Evie     | Weiss     | 11/13 |
| Pa Foua  | Yang      | 11/13 |
| Shannan  | Yang      | 11/14 |
| Richard  | Polson    | 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 |

**BALLROOM DANCE**

Join us for dancing on:

**OCTOBER 11th & 25th**  
 And  
**NOVEMBER 8th & 22nd**





**Christian Book Club**

**New book for October!**  
**The Time Keeper By Mitch Albom**  
**Join us for discussion**  
**Tuesdays at 7 PM**  
**in the Library**




**Are you interested in visiting the Holy land?**

An initial meeting for this trip will be held on Sunday, October 27 at 7 pm in the library.

ANYONE considering participating in this trip is encouraged to be present.

(If you want to go, but funds are tight, please come to the meeting. We don't want to restrict those going because of finances.)



**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](mailto:conniealfaro1313@gmail.com) .



**Fresno-Clovis CROP Hunger Walk**

Time to get those walking shoes out again. The 2013 Fresno-Clovis CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sunday, October 13th at 1:30 P.M. beginning at United Japanese Christian Church, 136 N. Villa in Clovis. Memorial UMC folk have been participating in this 3K event for nearly three decades, either by walking or by sponsoring walkers. We have hosted it two times. 25% of the funds raised address hunger in the Fresno-Clovis area by supporting the Community Food Bank. 75% of the funds provide long-term development programs 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,



**UMW News**



**October**

- 7--Red Bird 9:30 AM, Library
- 15- UMW Meeting 10:00 AM, Social Hall  
Executive Board Hosts for lunch Program TBA
- 23- Wesley Group 1:00 PM, Social Hall

**November**

- 19- UMW Meeting 10:00 AM, Social Hall  
Thanksgiving Luncheon  
Red Bird and Wesley Hosts



**December**

- 10- Souper Christmas Lunch 10:00 AM,  
Social Hall  
Red Bird Circle and Wesley Group TBA



# Upcoming Events

## All Church Conference:

Each year every congregation is asked to have a meeting to conduct business and elect officers for the coming year. Last year our circuit had an all-church conference altogether. It was such a success that we want to do it again this year!

MUMC & Fresno Korean UMC will host the event this year:

**Sunday, Nov. 17, 4-7 pm**

4pm-Gathering, music & inspirational messages

5pm-Potluck

5:45pm-All-Church Conferences

Everyone is encouraged to come!



## Christian Education:



It was WONDERFUL once again to gather around the tables in the fellowship hall as one family in faith to enjoy dinner before heading to our classes on Sunday evening. Both the

English Language and Hmong Language ministries work together each week to make our tasty meals. If you are interested to help with the meals, please talk with Pastor Janette.

## 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.

### Coming Soon:

**Oct. 4**

First Friday Fright Fest:

"Monsters Inc" -

This is a family friendly film about courage in the face of fear.



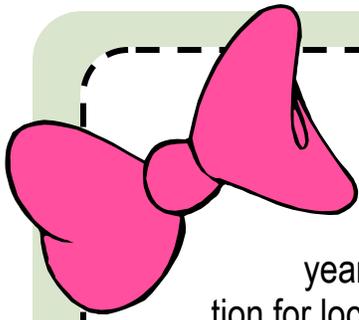
**Nov. 1**

First Friday

(John) Ford Fest:

"The Quiet Man" -

John Wayne seeks peace for his troubled soul and finds Maureen O'Hara in this rollicking story of family, love, and Irish ballads



## Toy Drive Kick Off November 3rd

This is MUMC's third 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.



## MUMC & Academy UMC

MUMC/ Academy Bible study group meets the first Saturday of each month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. We alternate locations. This group is not only to do Bible study, but also to build and strengthen relationships and ministries between our two congregations. Our next meetings will be:

**October 5, 10:30 am at Academy**  
Chapter 5 of "The Life of Jesus"  
UMC Carpool leaving MUMC at 10:05 a.m.

**November 2, 10:30 am at MUMC**  
Chapter 6 of "The Life of Jesus"

**December 7, 10:30 am at Academy**  
Chapter 7 of "The Life of Jesus"  
UMC - carpool leaving MUMC at 10:05 a.m.



## TAAG Team Outings

This summer, the Totally Awesome All Generational (TAAG) Team has biked the streets of Clovis, climbed mountains, sailed the waters of Millerton Lake, and braved the Clovis Fest Pepsi Booth. October and November will find us cozy and closer to home.

Saturday Oct. 26 Holiday Boutique Craft Day - making our contribution to the Annual Holiday Boutique mission fundraiser  
Saturday Nov. 16 TBA

In December, we plan a field trip to the "Season of Light" special presentation at the CSUF Planetarium. Watch the Good News for more details!



Saint Agnes  
Medical Center



## VOLUNTEER AT SAINT AGNES

### SHARE IN A SACRED TRUST

Join our Saint Agnes community of caring, compassionate volunteers who share in the ministry of visiting the sick. The Center for Spiritual Care will offer training beginning October 10, 2013 to persons interested in hospital ministry. Topics to be covered include spirituality, prayer, listening, diversity, grief and loss. Please call 450-3854 for information or registration.



On October 7th The United Methodist Men had a special delicious breakfast at Cafe Via. Attended by 40+ men who were treated to music by the bluegrass band Uncle Ephus, our guest speaker was Warren McGuffin (San Ramon UMC) who has created the Thomas Food Project in Haiti that Memorial UMC sent a mission team to in March '13. Besides continuing the great work at the Thomas Food Project, McGuffin would like to begin providing resources to the less accessible rural areas by building carts containing solar panels for power, rugged computer laptops, water purification kits and a projector. Having Haitians build the carts will provide much needed work for them. Having the Haitians being able to "check out" the cart for a day will give each of them a sense of ownership and access to job creating computers. California/Nevada UMCs will be able to sponsor each of these carts and in turn help create new rural schools in Haiti.

The UMM would like to thank Warren, invited guests from other UMM, Cafe Via and Uncle Ephus for making this a rewarding morning of fellowship.

Andy Hansen-Smith  
President, UMM



### Bible In A Year (BIAY)



Bible In A Year is proceeding well! At press time we are almost 1/4 of the way through the year! Wow! It goes fast! If you haven't begun, please jump in any time! Reading a lot of the Bible is better than reading none of it! Also, feel free to join in the classes offered: Sunday or Thursday evenings 5:45-6:45 p.m. in the library. Plus, for you early risers, the Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Bible study group at Denny's is using this as their focus for the year.



### Mission Thrift Shop



#### Preview Showing

The work on the Mission Thrift Shop has been completed! We are so proud of all the hard work this team has put in. Come to the open house between services Sunday Sept 29th to see all of the new improvements!

At our last meeting, Bea Bannister and Teri Scott volunteered to work on improvements in the very used and tired building. Bea acquired bids for carpet and budget figures for paint, supplies and the container.

Both Finance and Trustees empowered us to accomplish this mammoth task. \$5,237 was allocated from renovation and structural funds. Volunteers gave many hours of hard work and it looks great!

The Mission Thrift Shop will be open for business again on October 4 & 5.



### Youth & Young Adults

#### The STOP HUNGER NOW GAMES Youth/Young Adult Lock-in!

As part of the celebrations on our 120th Celebration weekend, the youth/young adults will be learning about hunger (and having loads of fun!) with a lock-in the night of Saturday October 19. Keep looking for more details about this event.

To sign up, please contact Sara (call or text 559-455-7960 or e-mail:

[sara@mem-umc.org](mailto:sara@mem-umc.org))

Signups close October 1.



## Special Friends

The Special Friends Group met July 11th, with thoughts of creativity. We heard that God is the source of all creativity, the source of our creativity. We co-create our lives, one day at a time in so many ways. Creativity is not limited to the arts. Perhaps you are great at writing or figuring out new solutions to problems. You might be someone who can calm down an irate customer on the phone or who knows what to say to a grieving family. God created you with these creative gifts.

We are checking on the pink cards everyone has been asked to have on file in the office with important information needed in the event of an emergency. Has your card been made available?

We checked on our special friends and recorded 3 visits, 22 phone visits, sent 24 cards and 6 notes.

Closing thought: Creativity is a tool for navigating tough everyday experiences to find the sacred in each God-given moment.

On July 27th we gathered with new friends to share information about who we are and what we do reaching out to those who want to be an active part of the church community even when unable to attend services or activities for various reasons. From this came a new dimension to our mission with several new members being in touch by phone on a routine basis to become better acquainted and to inform us each month how the phone visits have gone. We are excited about this new addition and look forward to being in touch with more members. Please pray for this new outreach and for the callers.

August 8th we expanded on Paul's remarks about the role the Holy Spirit plays in our prayer life. Often we get so confused about prayer, making it seem so complicated, and raising questions about prayer. A few are: I'm instructed to pray according to God's will, but how do I know His will? And how do I go about praying? Such confusion can be overwhelming.

When we neglect to pray we grieve the Spirit of God within us. Indeed, the Spirit shares God's grief over his peoples' unbelief and prayerlessness. Consider the few powerful ways the Holy Spirit plays a role in our prayers:

1. It is in prayer the Spirit seals God's promises in our hearts,
2. It is in prayer the comforter speaks hope to us,
3. It is in prayer the Spirit releases rivers of comfort, peace and rest in our souls,
4. It is in prayer that the Holy Spirit manifests the presence of Christ in us.

We shared the news of special friends, recording 3 visits, 41 phone visits and 9 notes and cards.

Our next meeting will be September 12th.

Closing thought:

I want to grow in spiritual fruitfulness. Stand by me and help me.

Blessings, Lorraine May



*Finance***General Fund Financial Summary August 31,2013**

Overall, we are all working together to keep our finances fairly stable. Financial giving is good, and expenses are low, so we are able to pay our bills and about 40% of our apportionments for this year. Not bad!! We did get a little bit behind our expenses in July, but we are confident as the fall rolls on that pledges will be caught up so we will be back in the black.

Also, you can be proud of the financial policies that the Finance Team and Administrative Support Team have developed. Through careful management of all MUMC's financial resources we have been able to undertake the renovation of the Thrift Shop without the need for a fundraiser!

And did you know? We have a offering fund which holds designated contributions until they are needed . This fund holds monies that are raised through our various fund-raising activities such as Second Sunday, Lunches, Save Mart SHARES and Clovisfest beverage booth. This fund is administered by the Network which is composed of representatives from all of the church's ministry groups. This fund has been used to help fund our Haiti Mission, fund our first 10,000 meals project with Stop Hunger Now, and to fund expenses for our 120th anniversary celebrating. It currently has \$5,157.48. The funds for our current Stop Hunger Now project to package 120,000 meals are held in a separate fund which as of Sept. 15th has \$6,698.95.



## 2nd Sunday Lunch

### Where does the money go?



Each month on the second Sunday we have a wonderful luncheon together in our fellowship hall. We each pay\$5, except for \$10 on Mothers' Day. After expenses are deducted we usually have a nice amount left over. The Network team (the elected leadership of our congregational ministries) oversees distribution of funds from this account.

From the first 24 meals we had a net amount of \$7137! Of that we used:

- \$1767 to send our youth on mission trips to central LA and to Haiti
- \$1558 for one of the 2012 apportionments
- \$1313 was raised for 2012 &2013 staff appreciation gifts (Mothers' Day lunch)
- \$324 was used to purchase new table cloths
- \$205 was sent for relief efforts after the Oklahoma tornadoes
- \$100 was used as our congregation's Human Relations Day .

We still have about \$2K in that account. There are a few large expenses that MUMC will be facing in the weeks ahead. It is possible some money from our lunch could be used to help feed people half-way around the world through Stop Hunger Now!

Practice what you preach!

Grace and peace be with you all!

Every year United Methodists gather in regional conferences to conduct business - the Annual Conference Session (ACS). Many years it can seem that the impact of much (if not most) of the business is hard to see reflected in the activities of the local congregations. Not this year!

The biggest piece of legislation this year focused on apportionments. Every local congregation is asked to share in the global ministries and mission of the United Methodist Church. One way we do this is financially, through "apportionments." Each Annual Conference determines for its own region how the apportionments will be assessed.

In previous times our Annual Conference has used a variety of ways to assess apportionments - sometimes based on membership, more recently based on a rather complicated mathematical formula. The apportionment calculations are used for budget planning for the regional ministries of our Annual Conference.

Last year a proposal was brought forward to change the formula to something more biblically based and simpler to understand: the tithe. However, there were many unanswered questions, and the idea was tabled to allow time to explore and answer the questions raised.

This year the idea of asking congregations to tithe as their apportionment giving was again brought to the Annual Conference Session. There was a lot of conversation and debate. There were important ideas and clarifications that needed to be made to the proposal. Finally, the legislation passed.

Beginning with January 2014 congregations are asked to pass on to the world-wide ministry and mission of our denomination 10% of the funds received for ministry.

Most local congregations ask the members to tithe. Now each local congregation, as one body, is asked to tithe beyond our local ministries. We are asked to put into practice what we talk about on Sundays. We are asked to make regular, monthly payments of 10% to support ministry beyond ourselves. In case you are wondering, there is very little change in the actual amount of funds MUMC will be sending on as our apportionment giving on an annual basis. The estimate is that 2014's tithe will be less than what we are asked to pay through the formula used to determine the 2013 amounts.

Across the region about a third of the congregations will see a significant decrease in apportionments, a third will see little change, and a third will see a significant increase in the amount to be given as apportionments.

How might this effect our congregation?

The biggest challenge for us as a congregation is probably the same biggest challenged faced by us as individuals: staying current in our giving.

We are now asked to pay MONTHLY 10% of funds received for ministry.

Currently there are some months where we get a lot of funds, and some months when the monthly receipts don't actually cover the usual monthly bills. It will be an act of faith to make MONTHLY payments of 10%. As we put our faith into practice we may actually find that this new approach to apportionments is very liberating!

Prayer is HUGE!! Prayer can bring forward much-needed peace in times of transition!  
I invite everyone to keep in prayer:

\* MUMC's tithing for apportionments

\*Our Finance team - they will bear the stresses which might arise from this change in the way we manage our funds

\*Our Congregation as we, likewise, strive to tithe on a monthly basis to the local ministries and mission of MUMC

\*Other congregations who will see a significant increase in what they are asked to share as their apportionment payments.

2013 is a very special year for MUMC as we look back on 120 years of mission and ministry, and as we look to the coming years of serving with love. We are seeing this year how richly we have been blessed by God, and how God continues to amaze us in the unfolding ministries of the congregation. I am confident that 2014 will be a year of astounding blessing as we become more and more faithful in trusting God with ALL areas of our lives - including our finances.

-js



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## MEMORIES OF MUMC

Was there a time in your life when the ministries of Memorial United Methodist Church touched you? We will be capturing your thoughts and/or prayers on video in the library after services starting on

September 29<sup>th</sup> and through October 13<sup>th</sup>.  
These will be shared during our  
120 Year Celebration.

See you at  
Homecoming  
October 19<sup>th</sup>  
at the  
Academy  
Church!

