



Good News!

The Newsletter of the Memorial United Methodist Church of Clovis

July 2006

WORSHIP IN SOCIAL HALL

Beginning July 2nd through the last Sunday in August, we will hold our Sunday worship service in the Social Hall due to the renovation project in the Sanctuary.

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

Sunday, July 23rd
Parkview Shelter (first left after entering park)
9 am

Join us as we "Worship in the Park" on Sunday July 23rd at 9 am. We have reserved the Parkview Shelter (first left after entering the park) from 7 am to 2 pm. It is sheltered, close to the restrooms, plenty of parking, and is an easy walk from your car. Come early for a walk or jog, and stay after the service to visit the Japanese Gardens.

NO HEALING SERVICE IN JULY

There will not be a Healing Service in July due to the Fourth of July holiday. The Healing Service will return on the first Tuesday of August.

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES!

You are invited to join your church family out on the north lawn for Friday Night at the Movies! We will start at 8:00 p.m. with short comedy films. It will be an enjoyable evening for you and your kids and grandkids, for your neighbors and their kids, for any kid at heart. Please bring something comfortable to sit on, and snacks to share. Cold punch and ice water will be provided. See you there! Here is a preview of future movies:

Friday July 7 - "Eight Below"

Friday July 21 - "Wallace and Gromit: Curse of the Were Rabbit"

WELCOME KHAM DY

We welcome Pastor Kham Dy Yang who begins full time ministry this month at Memorial United Methodist Church, Clovis.

*You are invited to join
Gladys Manuel
at an Ice Cream Social
to celebrate her
102nd birthday
Saturday, July 22nd, 1-3 pm
Memorial UMC Social Hall
RSVP by July 15th
Lorraine May*

PRAYER IS VERY IMPORTANT

Members of MUMC, your homes, in your messages to God, please remember on a regular basis to pray for the people who work on the renovation of our sanctuary. They will be tradesmen who "won" the bid and may not know us but it is through their generous efforts that the work will be done well. Let your prayers surround them with the support they need to feel welcome and to do a good job. Gloria McClanahan, The Renovation Team.

Congregational Care

SPECIAL FRIENDS TEAM REPORT FOR June, 2006

Seven members gathered in the Lose Library on June 13th: Dee Carr, Pauline Middleton, Lorraine May, Max Cannon, Evelyn Haulman, Janet Bonzo and Laurie Hill. We discussed the BE-Attitudes of Visiting by Katie Maxwell, such as Be prepared, Be open, Be still, Be sensitive to their needs and condition and Be human.

We prayed for our personal needs and Rudyard Kipling's prayer about mentoring the next generation in part:

*"Teach us delight in simple things,
And mirth that has no bitter springs;
Forgiveness free of evil done'
And love to all men 'neath the sun."*

We corrected addresses and reported 33 cards sent, 26 telephone visits and 34 home visits to our Special Friends in the past month. We raised in prayer persons with

losses, depression, illness, food poisoning and accidental injuries.

We invite YOU to join us if you feel called to this kind of ministry, at our NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 11 at 1:30 P.M. in Lose Library

Cordially, Laurence Hill, Coordinator.

Lighting the way

Rev. Linda Kelly's unusual ministry brings candles to the homeless



In her bare-bones street ministry, the Rev. Linda Kelly practices the tenets of her faith without a church. Without a choir. Without a collection. But she does have one liturgical mainstay. Candles.

Over the past five years, in the beeswax equivalent of the miracle of bread and fish, she has distributed untold thousands of candles to the poor and homeless. Her supply never seems to run dry. The back seat of her car is piled high with boxes of candles. They are donated to Kelly, a United Methodist Church minister, by a variety of congregations.

This is not to suggest that Sacramento's homeless are suddenly conducting a blazing vigil of religious renewal. No, nothing quite that miraculous. Candles for the poor, whatever their implications for the richly devout, are a handy, portable source of power. A guttering glow, a whisper of warmth, for tents and lean-tos pitched on streets and riverbanks. They provide, in the most profound sense, a light in the darkness. The candles come in all sizes and shapes. Votives, tapers, pillars, twists, Advent, Christmas, colored, pine-scented. Some are blessed. Many already have performed their spiritual charge, carrying hopes aloft. A few have but an hour's life left. Can these spent candles illumine one more entreaty before the consuming spark of darkness?

It's morning now. Kelly is sitting in her makeshift chapel, a tiny office located off teeming Friendship Park in the Loaves & Fishes complex. There is a desk, a few chairs, a shelf of Bibles, a portable heater. A burning candle sits on a windowsill, appearing much like a sanctuary lamp.

Kelly is 53 years old. She is a calm, kind-faced woman. Her clerical garb consists of jeans, boots, a fleece top. She calls

her ministry Side-by-Side: Spiritual Companions. Its credo is "Where the church meets the street." In a soft voice, gesturing outside, she says, "This is my church. They (the homeless) are my parishioners. From here, out to the river. These are the people with whom I journey. I am more a spiritual companion than a pastor. But they are Christ to me. Together, we explore where God is on our daily walk."

Kelly was raised in Foothill Farms. She and her mother attended St. Andrews United Methodist Church on Spruce Avenue. "My faith was part of who I was," she says. "I believed what Jesus said. I took it seriously."

Her goal as a girl was to feed the hungry. Which she proceeded to do as a woman. She became a dietitian. She ended up working on remote Indian reservations in Nevada, supervising food programs. One day, sitting in a church in Reno, she heeded a long-dormant call to nourish the world's hungry souls.

She was ordained in 1991. For six years, she pastored at Rancho Cordova United Methodist Church. "It was good work," she says. "I loved the people. But the mantle never really fit. I was uncomfortable in the role. This is my call here. My vocation is to be with the poor. I think this is what Jesus called us to do." She describes her service to the poor as a "listening ministry." There are endless stories to hear. Each morning in her chapel, she holds a prayer service. It is open to anyone. "This is their grounding for the day," she says of the participants. "This is where people find their strength."

She does other duties, too. She conducts frequent memorial services in Friendship Park. She organized a Wednesday jam session for street musicians at North Sacramento Methodist Church. And she regularly takes high school kids on tours of downtown, where they can encounter the homeless firsthand.

And, daily, she hands out candles.

The Rev. Linda Kelly's street ministry is supported by the United Methodist Church, but she accepts donations and used candles. You can reach her at (916) 443-4362.

WHAT IS YOUR MISSION?

Do you have ideas of something we should be doing here at Memorial? This is always your opportunity to give it a try. Whether it is a faith based interest group, special chore that needs doing or whatever you are inspired to offer to the Lord, let Denice know and you will be supported. Inspiration examples include study groups, fundraisers or "chores" Gloria says, "Call Denice".

Administration & Stewardship

Received for 2006 as of May 31:

Pledges: \$79,114

Percent of due-to-date: 97.5%

Thrift store: \$2,831 (Through April)

Hmong Mission: \$7,793

Building Use: \$5,706

In Kind Donations: \$1,722

Renovation: \$2,753

Vendor Faire: \$4,026

Coffee: \$471

Pastor's Fund: \$750

Multimedia: \$1,767

Grants Approved: \$72,000 (to be paid monthly)

Memorials: \$1,270



Youth Calendar

Saturday 07/01/06 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Poverello House Work Day

Sunday 07/02/06 5:00 - 7:30 pm

Sunday Nite at the Movies (Bungalow)

Friday 07/07/06 8:00 - 10:00 pm

Friday Night at the Movies (North Lawn)

Sunday 07/09/06 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Youth Meeting (Bungalow)

Friday 07/14 - Sunday 07/16/06 Backpack Trip

Sunday 07/16/06 NO MEETING

Friday 07/21/06 8:00-10:00 pm

Friday Night at the Movies (North Lawn)

Sunday 07/23/06 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Youth Meeting (Bungalow)

Sunday 07/30/06 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Youth Meeting (Bungalow)

YOUTH BACKPACK TRIP July 14-16!

Our (somewhat) Annual Backpack Trip is scheduled for Friday, July 14 through Sunday July 16. The location has yet to be chosen; it will be a fairly easy one-day hike, and since we are still fairly early in the season, the mosquitoes will not yet be large enough to carry any of us off! A planning meeting will be held after church on Sunday June 25. To sign up for the trip, and for more information regarding cost and supplies, you may call Youth Worker Connie Alfaro, or pick up a flyer in the church lobby.

A Community of Communities

Fresno District Family Retreat September 8-10, 2006

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity for fun and fellowship, discovery, discernment, worship, play, rest and recreation. Come for the whole time, or just come up Saturday for the day. Rides and Scholarships may be available. Register today for this important event. Camp Sierra is approximately 1 hour 15 minute drive from Fresno.

“For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ...” Romans 12:4-5
The Fresno District of the United Methodist Church is rural, urban, agricultural, Hispanic, Tongan, Japanese, traditional, post-modern, geographically and theologically diverse. We are a Community of Communities. To celebrate the strengths of our diversity your District Council on Ministries is offering a District Family Retreat September 8-10, at Camp Sierra. This is an opportunity for our individual communities to gather, discover, play, and worship together.

The retreat will focus on some of the unique strengths of our district providing opportunities to worship, play, and learn more about ourselves and one another. There will time for Bible Study, art projects, hiking, swimming, and individual and communal worship opportunities.

There are several ways for you to get involved in this retreat. Hopefully, you'll come for the whole weekend. However if this is not possible for you, consider coming up on Saturday, and share lunch and dinner with us. Then go home and sleep in your own bed. Here are the details. Check in for the retreat begins at 5:00 PM September 8th and we will begin check out at 1:00 PM on Sunday. Meals will be provided, but please bring a snack to share. Beds, mostly bunk beds and some full, will be assigned first come, first serve. If possible, families and couples will be assigned private rooms. You will need to bring your own bedding (sleeping bag) and toiletries. The whole family is welcome, and **scholarships are available**. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. For more information contact Susan Foster. Brochures are available in the church office. Let the District Office know if you can provide or need transportation to this retreat. Registration form is available in the church office.

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

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Another month has gone by and again we were open the first week end of the new one. Again we had a very good inventory to offer our guests. We did very well, taking in over \$700. This is helping our contributions to our apportionments increase steadily too. Again, thank you for all the contributions. A special thank you to all the volunteers that give their time to help sort, price, place and even wash, iron and or mend. It takes a lot of commitment to spend so much time doing those menial tasks and we are extremely grateful and really blessed.

We have a good start on our next weekend after getting two large donations already. So thank you thank you and keep 'em coming. AND you might want to take a minute or two next time we are open and see what treasure you can find in our little shop of treasures. Also spread the word to your friends and neighbors.

We will take your contributions whenever you can bring them; if the shed and church are both closed, please call either Margie or me and one of us will come and take them, Our numbers are in the church directory. Thanks, again for your continuing support. Submitted by Pat Frey

RENOVATION REPORT

SANCTUARY REPORT

On June 19, 2006, the Church Extension Society approved a loan of \$29,700 secured by the four-year pledges!! That is good news. When we include the \$20,000 on hand, we have approximately \$49,700 to use this summer. The sanctuary will be closed in July and August as we do our best to stretch the dollars over these four areas: chancel floor, organ chamber changes, lighting, and painting. This is approximately one-half of our improvement goals and we are not

sure we can do all the painting, so gifts are still welcome. Pledge sheets are in the narthex. And yes, always pray for your church and everyone who gives their time and efforts to this project.

The Renovation Team

LIBRARY

The library is not looking as good as it should. Books are piled here and there, an assortment of chairs are strewn about and someone has decided to store a drum set in the library. Whoever owns the drums, please take them home. They could get ruined sitting about in the library. Nancy Enloe has expressed an interest in being in charge of the library. Please contact her if you wish to help.

SPRING ARTISAN FAIRE

After resting up and catching Charlene DeTurk between flights (she is a flight attendant), we have a summary of the funds:

INCOME

Booth Rentals, electric service and extra tables	\$2,054.00
20% from Linda Nahin booth	20.00
Produce booth (Grams)	921.00
Door Prize	394.00
Hot dogs, drinks, etc. booth	537.75
Baked Good booth	<u>260.00</u>
Total Income	\$4,186.75

EXPENSES

Charlene DeTurk	\$835.00	Donated	\$835.00
LaDonna – Banners	152.00	Donated	\$152.00
Kayte – welcome bags	144.00	Donated	\$144.00
Gloria – signs	103.29	Donated	<u>\$103.29</u>
Total Expenses Donated			\$1,234.29

Food and Penny Saver Advertisement	569.19
Clovis Independent Advertisement	<u>325.00</u>
Total Expenses not donated	<u>894.19</u>

Net \$3,271.96

These funds will be contributed to the sanctuary renovation project. It was a lot of work and one might say, "Have we lost our minds?" No, it was work but it was also fun and because we learned a lot on our first experience, it will be more successful next spring.

Submitted by the Fund Raising Committee