



Good News!

The Newsletter of the Memorial United Methodist Church of Clovis

November 2006

FRESNO DISTRICT LEARNING DAY NOVEMBER 4TH at CLOVIS MUMC!

Saturday, November 4, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. UM Rev. William Easum, nationally renowned leader on church health and vitality, will be here at Memorial to speak on “Churches Thrive or Decline: Reasons Churches Grow.” Lunch is included in registration and free childcare is available. Call the church office if you want to go and let us know if you need financial help. Cost is \$49.00 for the day. This day is sponsored by our Fresno District Council on Ministries and the Fresno Mission and Church Extension Society. This event is your apportionment dollars at work.

ALL SAINTS DAY SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5

We will celebrate the lives of the faithful through the generations and lift up those who have died this past year as well as honor the memories of those dear to us on All Saints Sunday, November 5. See you in worship!

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAY NOV. 26.

You will have an opportunity to give to the United Methodist Student Loan and Scholarship funds on Sunday November 26. The cost of getting a seminary degree is so expensive now, many students leave with a debt load they will carry the majority of their lives on top of their college loans. These loans are offered at reduced interest rates and scholarships are provided for graduates of needy constituencies headed into careers of service in the church.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE AND LUNCHEON NOVEMBER 10-11

Two beautiful quilts will be up for silent auction this year at our annual Christmas Boutique. Doors open at 9 a.m. and close each day at 2 p.m. Lunch is served both days beginning at 11:30 am with Chicken Alfredo Lasagna featured Friday and Homemade Soup on Saturday. Shop early for best selection of handmade items by our dedicated Boutique crafters who meet weekly on Wednesdays from 9 to 11:30 when they turn into the Lunch Bunch and go out to eat together. Proceeds this year will provide us with the funds for a Partnership Covenant which means we will supply a portion of a UM Missionary's salary. They will visit when home and write us about their work. Other funds go for our connectional mission giving which are the funds that recruit and train missionaries and pastors, as well as provide for their retirement, support our Africa University and our Hmong Ministry salary grant among many other equally wonderful and important mission and ministry here at home and around the world.

ANNUAL ADVENT POTLUCK DINNER NOT FAR OFF - SATURDAY, DEC. 2.

Are you planning on decorating and hosting a table this year at the Advent Dinner? Or are you looking forward to being seated at a festive table and enjoying your hostesses work while you all dig into the big feast? Either way it is always a great way to begin the Advent/Christmas season and a night to remember. The dinner is Saturday, Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-ups will be in the narthex so watch for the announcement. The hall is open early on Saturday for the decorators.

**GIFT AND TASK MISSION BASED
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN BEGINS -
FLUTE CHOIR WILL PROVIDE CHRISTMAS
MUSIC AT CONCLUDING LUNCHEON**

This year our annual financial stewardship campaign will focus on our mission as a church highlighting those ministries we want to pursue next as disciples of Jesus. The campaign will begin November 19 and conclude December 3 on Gratitude Sunday with a catered meal which will be provided for the entire congregation in the Fellowship Hall. A donation for the meal will be requested. Our Youth under the supervision of Barbara and Roger Grams will provide us with an old fashioned comfort food luncheon of pulled pork. Janette Erickson will direct the Flute Choir with harp and bassoon as they play Christmas music. It will be a day to be thankful together. RSVP's are requested. Mark your calendar.

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)*

PROJECTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As we anticipate our new projection system coming on line later this month we are in need of volunteers for the projection station each Sunday. We need one trained volunteer each Sunday of the month. Speak with Ron Zastovnik, Roger or Barbara Grams or Pastor Denice if you are interested. Training provided.

URGENT NEED: USHER COORDINATOR

As of this writing we have no one to schedule our ushers. We have a regular crew and anyone interested in ushering is welcome. We need a coordinator. The Usher Coordinator schedules the ushers monthly, provides usher instructions (a handout mailed to the ushers from the office), and explains the ushers' duties. With four Sunday's a month, and many families ushering, sign up is not difficult. Follow through is essential for the quality of our worship service. Speak with Pastor Denice if you feel called to this important ministry.

THANKSGIVING CHRYSANTHEMUMS

If you would like to order a Thanksgiving mum in honor or in memory of a loved one, please call the church office at 299-4615, or fill out the form available in the Sunday Insert. Please make sure to place this form in the offering plate, or place in the basket marked "Insert" on the counter in the office. Cost \$7.00. Checks should be made to Memorial United Methodist Church. The mums will grace our sanctuary on November 12 and 19.

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

**UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES FOR 2007
AVAILABLE SOON**

If you are looking for a wonderful daily devotional, try the annual Upper Room Disciplines for 2007. They are \$11.00 and will be available in the office soon. Call the church office if you want to reserve one. If you have more questions and would like to see this year's before you buy, call Minnie Eller and she will be happy to show you hers.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

We were open Oct. 6th and 7th and had another lively weekend. We are thankful to the Methodist Women's organization for bringing us some customers. We were happy to see them and hopefully they were happy with their purchases. Again, a big thank you to our volunteers who so readily help out on these weekends. As always, we couldn't do it without all our dedicated volunteers. Preliminary count for Oct. is \$766. We give thanks to God for helping us in our ministry.

We already have a great start on next month's inventory. And, again, thank you for your support. We truly couldn't do it without you. But, a simple request (or maybe two), please do not bring us your old computers or other electronic devices that we can't test to

see if it is in working condition. We cannot or at least will not sell something that we can't tell people it works. If we don't have a way to test it to see it is in working condition we can not sell it. And we have no way of disposing of unworkable electronic equipment. If you are donating something electrical that you know works, it would be helpful if you left a note with it telling us that. Also, again, thank you for assuring your contribution has been only gently used and is CLEAN. Our volunteers work very hard sorting, marking, hanging, and straightening up the shop, we hate having to ask them to launder, iron, or otherwise clean a donation. So thank you for your consideration.

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. If you have a large donation, we prefer that you call us first so that your donation gets to the Thrift Shop. Our numbers are in the church directory. Thanks, again for your continuing support.

Submitted by Pat Frey

We each shared how life was going for us and supported each other in needs and joys. We reported on our activities: at least 25 visits 48 cards and 28 telephone calls, besides Pastor Denice' pastoral work. Thanks to you all for being Christ to them.

We moved 4 people from Special Friends List to Watch List, added 2 to Special Friends List. We prayed for problems in our community, ones with knee and heart surgery, Lorraine May in hospital and the families of Jenny Strain and Ruth Bell.

Feel free to join us at our November Event, (2nd) Tuesday the 14th at 1:30 P.M. in the Lose Library.

Laurence Hill, Team Coordinator

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."

Congregational Care

Giving Special Care to Others



SPECIAL FRIENDS TEAM REPORT FOR OCTOBER, 2006

We gathered on 10/10 to work toward getting pastoral care to our members and friends with critical issues in their lives. We included Dee Carr, Pauline Middleton, Max Cannon, Pat Frey, Evelyn Haulman, John Tallmadge, Pat Frey and I.

We began with Pauline reading her meditation "Built into The Wall" based on Ephesians 2:19-22: "You are... built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord in whom you also are built together."

Youth Page Calendar

Saturday 11/04/06 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Youth Poverello House Work Day

Sunday 11/05/06 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Sunday Night at the Movies

Sunday 11/12/06 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Meeting (Bungalow)

Sunday 11/19/06 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Meeting (Bungalow)

Sunday 11/26/06 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Meeting (Bungalow)

COACHES CORNER

FRESNO DISTRICT LEARNING DAY NOVEMBER 4, 2006 HERE AT MUMC!!!

For the third year we have the great good fortune to host the Fresno District Learning Day event. This year our District Council on Ministries has invited Rev. William Easum to be our teaching leader. Bill, a United Methodist Elder, author of the acclaimed book, *Church Growth Handbook*, is one of the most widely sought advisors on congregational health and vitality in North America.

Bill, the author of many books and articles, writes regularly for *Net Results*, a national evangelism magazine. He grew a dying San Antonio, Texas congregation with a leadership team of 12 dedicated members by 600% to one of the largest churches in America using four basic building blocks: 1) Ministry must be Christ Centered to meet the needs of the people, not the institution. 2) Worship is the initial building block of congregational life, sustained and nurtured by Christian Education. 3) God wants the church to grow and grow. 4) God expects our very best. He cautions the size of a church does not matter - these essential growth principles grow healthy churches with integrity.

The first day, Friday November 3, of the two day event is for clergy and interested leadership on the subject of "The Second Resurrection: How Traditional Clergy Become Spiritual Leaders," 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The second day, Saturday, November 4, is for every one of us who cares about our church regardless of our age or capacity. The topic for Saturday is "Churches Thrive or Decline: Reasons Churches Grow," 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

As your pastor I want you to understand how vital it is for you to be on board with your leadership's direction, thinking, and understanding. Whether you are able to be as involved as others or not is

irrelevant. What's important is that we are all on the SAME WAVE LENGTH, so as we move in a specific direction, you have insight into why and can help others understand. Your support of your church is vital if it is to be healthy. Healthy churches grow Disciples for Jesus Christ.

There is nothing worse or more destructive to the health of a church than uninformed assumptions and attitudes that cling to past experiences for our models for today. As cherished as those memories may be, they will kill our future quicker than anything. I love this church. I am passionate about the message of Jesus Christ we have to show and tell our community. As long as I am your Pastor, I will fight to my dying breath for its ministry and vitality. How about you? There's only one thing I am not willing to work with and that is willful ignorance. If you honestly don't know and want to know, that's a horse of a different color.

Be here for this event—if you can't stay all day come part of the day. Pray for this event. Pray for Bill's wellbeing, and that the Holy Spirit will open our hearts and minds to receive the gifts God has given Bill to give to us. **Scholarships are available to cover the registration. Registration includes lunch. Free childcare is available both days with advance notice.** The cost is \$75.00 for both days and \$49.00 for one day. The District Council will pay for the third and fourth registration of every church and the Fresno Mission and Church Extension Society will pay for the seventh and eighth and we at Memorial will subsidize any one with financial need. Fill out the registration below and return directly to the District Office or turn in with your check to the church office ASAP.

Please Detach and Mail with your check to the Fresno District Office, 2435 N. Thesta, Fresno, CA 93703 Phone 559-226-9094

Church Name: _____

Phone: _____

Participants: _____

Friday Saturday Both Days
_____ _____ _____

Childcare (please list ages): _____