



# GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church August 2008

"The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

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**FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES!** You are invited to join your church friends and neighbors for Friday Night at the Movies on August 1 and August 8. The show starts at 7:00 p.m. with some comedy shorts, and the Feature Presentation starts at 7:30 p.m. It may be hot outside, but we will enjoy the air-conditioned comfort of the Fellowship Hall. This will be an enjoyable evening for you and your kids and grandkids, for your neighbors and their kids, for any kid at heart. If the fellowship hall chairs leave something to be desired for a three-hour sit-down, feel free to bring more something comfortable to sit on, and snacks to share. Cold punch and ice water will be provided. For more information, call Connie Alfaro. Here is a preview of future movies:

**CHURCH YARD SALE SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6:** In addition to our donated items, please tell people at work, neighbors and friends that we welcome their donated items for our yard sale. This is a great time to get rid of large items that wouldn't ordinarily fit in the thrift store. The time is getting away and before we know it, we will be pricing like crazy and getting ready for the big day. All proceeds will go to the Mission Thrift Store. We will accept items that fit in your car on Sundays August 17, 24 and 31. Just put them behind the dividers in the fellowship hall. We will be accepting larger items as well from Tuesday, September 2 through Friday, September 5 in the fellowship hall.

**THANKS FOR YOUR "NOTHING BUT NETS" GIFTS!** Because of your generous giving to our Easter offering, a donation of \$690.10 has been made through the United Methodist Advance to "Nothing But Nets." The United Methodist Church is a partner in this grassroots campaign to eradicate malaria in Africa. The mosquito-borne disease causes the death of one-fifth of those under 5 years old and kills 3,000 children a day. Hanging nets permeated with insecticide over sleeping areas is an inexpensive way to repel or kill mosquitoes. Bed nets are treated with pyrethroid insecticides which have a low level of toxicity to humans, but are deadly to insects. The nets are effective for four years. One net hung over a sleeping child may protect others in the room and when enough are used in an area, the insecticides in the net fabric can make entire communities safer. For each \$10 donation, \$7 purchases and distributes a net which will cover up to four family members as they sleep. The other \$3 pays for community workers to educate families on how to use the nets. Since our gift was given through the Advance, **100%** goes directly to the project and this will provide funding for 69 nets. To date over 2 million nets have been distributed on the African continent, saving countless lives. If you would like more information on this effort, see Sue DeFranco or visit [www.nothingbutnets.net](http://www.nothingbutnets.net). Thank you for your faithfulness to God's children all over the world.

## Congregational Life

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

**THRIFT SHOP NEWS:** We were open on the holiday weekend and did very well. We wondered if our faithful clientele would venture out on Friday (July 4<sup>th</sup>). But we needn't have worried. They were there well before we were open for business and we took in \$772 on that day. There were a few who thought we wouldn't be open on the fourth, and they came on Saturday. The amount for that day was smaller - \$337 - but the total was over \$1100 so we again gave thanks for a great weekend. We especially thank all of our volunteers who worked this weekend because it WAS a holiday. We have such faithful volunteers - many thanks to all of you!!!! We are looking forward to the open weekend in August. We were fortunate to receive the remains of a couple garage sales, and some things from friends of the Middleton's who remembered our thrift shop because of them. And, though donations are slow coming this month we know they will come and we thank you. At our quarterly board meeting on the eleventh we approved another quarterly donation to the church apportionments of \$2500. We pray that the next two quarters will be as good for us so we can keep that up. Please continue to pray for us as we try to do God's work. And may His blessings be with each of you.

- Submitted by Pat Frey

### **UMW NEWS:**

-Sunday August 24 is UMW Sunday. Our speaker Julie Taylor from Washington DC is in the valley speaking on behalf of the National Farm Workers Ministry on Child Labor. Since 2002 she has been the executive secretary for Children, Youth and Family Advocacy, Women's Division, and the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. Her message will be interesting as well as informative.

-August 25 - UMW Board meeting - 9am in the Lose Library

- Submitted by Barbara Nielsen

### **UMM BREAKFAST MEETING AUGUST 2,**

**2008:** Breakfast is a mystery, at this point, because I don't know who the cook will be. There will be a worship study facilitated by Rick Hutchinson immediately following breakfast. There will also be discussion regarding possible procedural changes for our meetings. Your input will be much appreciated so make room on your calendar. The Methodist Church is a church with Open Hearts, Open Doors, Open Minds so bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

**CONCERT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS:** June 28 was a special night at MUMC. Scott Hatfield and musicians provided a wonderful evening of entertainment. Desserts were enjoyed in the north yard under the sycamore tree with special lighting. It was all a touch of magic!! We made over \$3,000 and expenses were taken care of by generous sponsors. The money earned went a long ways towards burning the Fellowship Hall mortgage. We thank everyone for his/her time and efforts.

-Submitted by the Fund Raising Team

**ITEMS NEEDED:** The toddler nursery is in need of the following items: a CD player, children's music CDs, and children's DVD's. We are also in needs of supplies for activities. If you would like to donate, please get in touch with our child care coordinator Dorrie Osback-Rose.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you from the Williams family for prayers and cards following the loss of Darren's sister Sherri.

**THANKS:** By the time you read this, George and I plan to be in Pa, by way of Chicago and Dayton, for my family reunion. This will be significant in that I have struggled with a couple of very serious health issues in the past three months that I had never thought would happen to me. First I want to thank this wonderful congregation for the many cards, phone calls, and most importantly, prayers. All of this is greatly appreciated - thank you! We have felt your love and kindness in many ways. Second - as you all know I have been a keen advocate for Wellness, prevent illness - my message today is more important than ever

-- listen to your body - pay attention to symptoms. Due to the fact that my Cholesterol has always been normal - and still is - as well as my other lab tests - the morning of- April 16th I totally denied that I was having a Stroke (CVA) and delayed going to the Emergency department - George was quite exasperated. I used every point of reasoning - I was tired, low potassium, etc. etc. As luck would have it we had to phone our son - the Cardiologist - and he was adamant as he screamed get to the ER. The stroke was bad enough - I am so grateful that I have fully recovered - however an occluded right carotid artery was found - another stroke risk! That has been successfully surgically resolved and I also am very thankful for the numerous doctors, nurses, medical assistants that cared for me along the way. My Kaiser friends were terrific as well. Our "kids" - the Awesome Five - showed - at least most of them - to give their Dad and I additional support. The bottom line is -the love of our family, church family and friends cannot be thanked enough.

-Blessings to you all, Lucy.

PS - Watch for an upcoming seminar on "Beware of the Symptoms"!

## YOUTH NEWS

### YOUTH CALENDAR

- ★Friday 08/01/08 - 7:00 p.m. Friday Night at the Movies (Fellowship Hall)
- ★Sunday 08/03/08 - 5:00 p.m. Youth Movie Nite
- ★Friday 08/08/08 - 7:00 p.m. Friday Night at the Movies (Fellowship Hall)
- ★Sunday 08/10/08 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Club Youth Group (Bungalow)
- ★Sunday 08/17/08 - NO Holy Club Meeting
- ★Sunday 08/24/08 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Club Youth Group (Bungalow)
- ★Saturday 08/30/08 - 8:00 a.m. Youth Poverello House Work Day
- ★Sunday 08/24/08 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Club Youth Group (Bungalow)

### OUR YOUTH GROUP HAS A NEW NAME!

We are now the Holy Club! The Holy Club was the name given to John and Charles Wesley's group by their fellow college students who

were teasing them about their devotion to Bible study and service to God. Their Club was also the first sign of what later became Methodism. Over the rest of summer, our Holy Club will be studying the 22 questions that the original Holy Club asked themselves every day, including "Can I be trusted?" "Do I disobey God in anything?" and "Is Christ real to me?" All youth grades 7 - 12 are welcome to join the Club! We meet just about every Sunday night at 5:30 p.m. for fellowship, Bible study, and games. Check our calendar for more details. If you have any questions, please contact Youth Director Connie Alfaro [connie@clovismumc.org](mailto:connie@clovismumc.org).

### 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)

**FAIR TRADE NEWS:** Our sale of Fair Trade coffee has gone down somewhat over the past year. I will be continuing to order limited amounts of decaf for sales and enough of the regular and flavored for coffee hour use, but am considering discontinuing purchasing any for sales unless individuals let me know that they are interested in these items. I don't want to sell "stale" coffee and unfortunately, the shelf life of coffee is limited. Remember, your purchase of fairly traded items benefits small farmers in underdeveloped counties and any profit we make goes to support the covenant relationship we have with Carol Partridge, our missionary in Macedonia. Please let me know if you have an interest in purchasing Fair Trade items such as coffee, cocoa, and chocolate or would like more information. Thanks.

-Sue DeFranco

### Worship Ministry

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

### **COACH'S CORNER—CLIP AND SAVE!**

**"WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE?"** We are drawing closer to the beginning of the new Sunday morning worship schedule, Sunday, September 7, 2008. The new service will be at 9:30 a.m. and the current service will be at 11:00 a.m. I

know many will be curious about the early service or simply desire an earlier service and will give it a try. Everyone is welcome and invited to get on board! There is room for any and all who want to become a part of this new venture. Here are some important things to understand in preparation: The first service is and will be a work in progress for some time to come. We are not advertising this service in any big way right now. Why? Because we will not be ready. For quite a while—months— we will not only be worshipping but also *practicing*. Nothing will be polished—rehearsals aren't! We will be “knocking around” for a while finding our footing, stopping and starting (literally). It will be small—it will be mostly worship for the “crew” who are working on the service—and doing so with the understanding that this is an outreach ministry. A point will come when we are ready to “take it public” so to speak! Pray for that day. I want to be candid with you about how this will be received among us. It will feel to some who have a definite understanding of what worship is that this isn't “real worship”—as in legitimate. Some will also assume or be fearful that ALL the younger people will go to the early service and when they continue to go to the “real” service, will see their presence as invalidating the early service. Others will look for a big crowd by the end of the year which is highly unlikely. This is a venture that will take a number of years to come to fruition. Some will feel threatened and assume any indications of things not panning out as confirmation of their own worship preferences and desires and see these things as validating their feelings and therefore invalidating the new service—“its obviously a failure, how much longer do we have to put up with this?” “When are THEY going to get the message?” And the gossip will go round—that's normal, predictable, human behavior in the face of change in any human organization. But you can choose to recognize and understand these are normal feelings that arise in us at times of change. You can choose to deal with them differently—by being conscious and acknowledging your feelings and not being hard on yourself or others, and at the same time not permitting these feelings to have a negative impact on you or others. Feelings are not right or wrong. They just are. God gives us our feelings. It's what we DO with them that makes them constructive or destructive. We can use and abuse them or we can acknowledge and accept them and then make a conscious decision about how we will behave and what we will do as

mature disciples of Jesus Christ. Here is some help: It's important to remember that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Human forms may change, times may change but he does not change. We are here to serve his gospel and to reach out to others to give them the gift of God's unconditional love and grace. Prayer is the first step. Pray for the new service. Pray for all involved in the midst of THEIR uncertainty. Encourage them and build up their morale. Champion them. Speak reassuring words to those you hear expressing negativity and criticisms. It's so tempting to be drawn in or to these kinds of conversations or to remain silent and there by permit others to assume we agree with them when we want to “fit in” with others! Resist that temptation. Acknowledge the other person's feelings but help them remember our larger purpose. Old Satan would just love to have us engage in infighting—no better way to bring a house down than to sow seeds of dissension—to cut our nose off to spite our face! Instead, try offering a hug or a gentle reminder that Jesus loves everyone and the gospel isn't just for some worshipping in a certain way. As we make this transition there will be hub-bub as we all adjust to the new service times—there will be glitches and miscommunications and frustrations. This is normal. There is no THEY out there. We can choose to remember that and resist the temptation to blame somebody by remembering there is only US. We are all in this together. We can choose to be a part of the solution or we can choose to be a part of the problem. We can give our gifts or we can withhold them. This is true in all we do together as a church. We will need good cheer, good will, and God's grace and not just for a while—BUT FROM NOW ON for all of us! It's important to remember others will be excited about the new service opportunity and have been waiting very patiently for this for a long, long time. They long for a service that speaks to their heart song. And finally, we ALL need to remember, it's not about any of US. It's about the folks who are NOT HERE yet. It's like getting ready to host a party for guests who will be arriving. It's about hospitality. And all of us here who are worshipping in the current service or in the new service must remember we are not here to be served—we are here to serve because it's about Jesus. Remember that above all--- it's about offering Jesus.

With hope and anticipation for our future together in faithfulness, Pastor Denice Leslie



Shoua Yang – 1<sup>st</sup>  
Jennifer Lee – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Tony Yang – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Cecil Leonardo – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Dorothy Doss – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Maryann Jennison – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Helen Tashjian – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Chet Lungren – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Cody Anderson – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Darren Williams – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Ryne Hatfield – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Shia Yang – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Shia Thao Yang – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Nou Moua Lee – 11<sup>th</sup>  
Jennifer Meador – 11<sup>th</sup>  
Wesley Markland – 12<sup>th</sup>  
Chad Cole – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Rick Hutchinson – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Viola Nutting – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Angela Vue – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Angela Vue Yang – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Bill Febuary – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Shirley Monis – 15<sup>th</sup>

Ozzie Hernandez – 16<sup>th</sup>  
Heather Doig – 17<sup>th</sup>  
Carol Silva – 17<sup>th</sup>  
Glynda Ward – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Vernon Barkman – 19<sup>th</sup>  
Edgar Ede – 19<sup>th</sup>  
Aleya Yang – 19<sup>th</sup>  
Say Thao – 20<sup>th</sup>  
Betty Anderson – 21<sup>st</sup>  
Blia Yang Moua – 21<sup>st</sup>  
May Chee (Sandy) Moua – 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Elijah Yang – 22<sup>nd</sup>  
LaDonna Snow – 24<sup>th</sup>  
Duane Wamsley – 24<sup>th</sup>  
Heather Tomasetti – 25<sup>th</sup>  
Jim Linenbach – 26<sup>th</sup>  
Cliff Stocks – 26<sup>th</sup>  
Goly Moua – 28<sup>th</sup>  
Go Ly Xiong – 28<sup>th</sup>  
Sheila Weyant – 29<sup>th</sup>  
Tanner Potter – 30<sup>th</sup>  
George Middleton – 31<sup>st</sup>