



# GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church November 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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**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY NOV. 2:** All Saints Sunday we will be honoring the memories of those who have died this past year as well as listing those dear to us who have crossed the Crimson Line in both services of worship.

**AMAZING BIBLE RACE KICKS OFF:** Please pray for our youth and their coaches as they begin the Amazing Bible Race which is a two year project competing in teams to learn all about the Bible!

**TIME TO SHOP! CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE NOV. 14 – 15:** Mark your calendars for the 2008 Christmas Boutique and luncheon. Come shop for unique handmade items and support our world wide mission in the Social Hall. Another beautiful handmade quilt may become yours!

**EAT PIE! CELEBRATION: BURN SOCIAL HALL MORTGAGE NOV. 23:** At 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, 2008 we will gather as a congregation outside on in front of the Social hall to burn the mortgage on the hall. Ila Davidson, who started the fundraising by selling apple pies every Sunday some fourteen years ago will burn the note and then we will all eat pie together: apple or pumpkin and give thanks for God's many blessings, not least of which is the faithful stewardship of this congregation!! CONGRATULATIONS MEMORIAL!!!

**UMM BREAKFAST MEETING November 1, 2008:** Breakfast is a mystery, at this point, because I don't know who the cook will be. There will be a worship study and discussion facilitated by Rick Hutchinson immediately following breakfast. There will also be a 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.

**NEWS FROM THE PANTRY:** Yes, the food in the pantry is going out almost faster than we can stock it. Times are very hard right now for many people, through no fault of their own. Most are very thankful that there are helping hands that can bring a little relief. How better can we serve God than to help our fellow man? If you would like to donate food to the pantry, here is a list of what goes into the bags for the hungry: boxed cereal, dry milk or boxed soy-milk, bottled fruit juice, canned fruit, canned veggies, canned meat or tuna, peanut butter, dried beans or canned beans, rice or spaghetti, tomato paste or sauce or canned tomatoes, mac and cheese or rice a roni, canned or packaged soup, and crackers. We can also use paper grocery sacks to put the food in. If you donate food and have a store receipt with the purchases on it, you can give it to Sara or Diane, and it will go on your statement of giving from the church for tax purposes. We truly appreciate every donation that we get. Thank you.

-The Pantry committee

## Upcoming Events!

### **FALL LEARNING EVENT- SAVE THE DATES!:**

This year's fall learning event is scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Friday will once again be geared toward pastors and key lay leaders, Saturday will be an opportunity for everyone to participate. As always you are encouraged to bring a team from your church! This year our teaching leader will be Doug Anderson, the executive director of the United Methodist affiliated Bishop Rueben Job Center located in South Dakota. The Bishop Rueben Job Center was founded in 1998 and focuses on providing leadership and church development resources and support to congregations. So mark November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> for the Fresno District Fall Learning event, you won't want to miss it! More information about location, cost, and price incentives will be coming soon.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS NOV. 28:** Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of our Lord, and one of Memorial UMC's Advent traditions is to decorate the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall together.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and decorate the Christmas tree, and hang the pine garlands and wreaths on Friday November 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The youth group will be on

hand to climb ladders and do the heavy lifting. Many hands make light work for all, so please join us!



## 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 Friday and Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. We were busy both days but our take for the weekend is down a bit from the past few. Our preliminary count is \$841. We were, of course, a bit

disappointed but still we are grateful and praise God for that. Our donations were down some until the very last Tuesday before we were to open and then they picked up. So thank you to all of you who brought your donations. We still are in need of volunteers. I can't emphasize enough how important help in the Thrift shop is. We really need help on Friday morning when we are open. We always have a lot of people for about the first 2 to 2 ½ hours. Many of our clientele are older people who need help getting their purchases to their cars and it's hard to keep up with all that's going on and help them too. So won't you please consider coming in to give a hand for even an hour? We thank our volunteers again for all their help with special thanks again to Jodie Booze who helped us out both mornings, and to Janet Bonzo who worked all day Friday and stayed late to help close. Joan Bowser also has a wonderfully helpful daughter; there to visit with her Mom, she pitched in and helped with the closing too - our thanks to her. We could use kitchen things: dishes, pots and pans, mugs - almost anything from your kitchen that you don't need or use anymore and want to get rid of. Blessings and thanks to you and again, please keep us in your prayers. -Submitted by Pat Frey



**SPECIAL FRIENDS:** On October 14<sup>th</sup>, seven joined in the Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition to begin our Special Friends meeting; followed by the hymn 'Breathe on Me Breath of God'. The Bible lesson was from The Message version of John 14:9-10, taken from the September/October Alive Now, as was a meditation on integrity. The Bible sets a high standard for our walking in integrity. Integrity begins with discernment regarding an important decision, follows through with action that supports the discernment, and concludes with a willingness to accept responsibility, however

difficult, for the action. May we open ourselves to the breath of God until our hearts are pure. We shared our own joys and concerns as we thought about what God is doing in our lives, then shared news of our Special Friends. During September and October we made 17 visits, sent 81 cards and made 43 phone visits. Nancy transported 5 friends to church and Pat visited 68 patients at St. Agnes. We closed with St. Francis of Assisi's 'Canticle of Brother Sun'. Beginning in November, our meetings will change to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, making the next meeting on November 13.

Blessings, Lorraine May

**BOUTIQUE:** The boutique will be November 14 and 15 of this year – mark your calendars! Pat Frey and her crew will be serving lunch both days. We have a beautiful quilt and lots of crafts for your holiday shopping. Remember to support our Country Store with your home made goodies. We will accept your craft contributions any Wednesday morning between 9 and 11 am. We look forward to another successful sale benefiting our church and our missions. -The Boutique Group



**UMW NEWS:**

- Nov. 3: Board meeting at 9am in the Lose Library
- Nov. 12: Red Bird Circle meeting at 9:30 am in the Lose Library
- Nov. 18: Regular meeting for ALL women at 10am in the Social Hall. There will be a program by Dorothy Heskett and Roberta Coon with a luncheon hosted by the Red Bird Circle to follow. Please bring your own service.
- Nov. 19: Wesley Circle meeting at 1pm in the Social Hall.

**CHURCH PROPERTY:** It has come to the attention of the Ad Support Team that certain items of church property turn up missing occasionally. At the moment, 2 of the new 6 foot tables are missing from the Social Hall.

Church policy is very clear on this issue: "No church property is to leave the premises for personal use without specific authorization from the Administrative Support Team." If you know of someone that has the 2 tables mentioned, please encourage them to return them, with no questions asked. It is only fair that the Church property stay within the premises for the specific use of our congregation. We all thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2009:** If you had a budget in your work area this year, you should have received a **budget request letter**. If you did not receive a letter and would like to have budgeted funds for 2009, please get a budget request form from the office or see Diane Zastovnik or Howard Cook. Please turn in all budget requests by November 15.

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S BOARD GOES FROM O-90!** The Young People's Board has morphed into Christian Education for young people, youth ministry, family ministry and more! The Halloween Party held in October was a "0-90" sponsored event and it was great to see 50 folk come out and join in the fun! So we concluded a name that reflects current reality would be "O - 90" as in zero to ninety years young.

**EVERYONE LOVES SARA!** The word's gotten out: Sara Glazebrook is wonderful to work with and wonderfully efficient and competent! However, there's just not enough of Sara to cover all the things we would like her to do. Please remember, if you have a project or other need you would like Sara to do that her first priority is all the things we originally hired her to do as church office secretary. Sara is happy to accommodate requests beyond her usual duties providing she has time in her schedule. Also, some seasons of the year are busier or less busy than others. Please call and check with Sara to see what the work load is for her and it would be best to make requests two weeks ahead of need. Thanks so much!

# YOUTH NEWS

## YOUTH CALENDAR

- ★ Sunday 11/02/08 - 5:00 p.m. - Amazing Bible Race Kickoff Party, Fellowship Hall
- ★ Sunday 11/09/08 - 5:30 p.m. - Holy Club Youth Group, Bungalow
- ★ Sunday 11/16/08 - 5:30 p.m. - NO Holy Club Meeting
- ★ Sunday 11/23/08 - 5:30 p.m. - Holy Club Youth Group, Bungalow
- ★ Friday 11/28/08 - 1:00 p.m. - Hanging of the Greens Decorating Party
- ★ Saturday 11/29/08 - 8:00 a.m. - Poverello House Work Day
- ★ Sunday 11/30/08 - 5:30 p.m. - Holy Club Youth Group, Bungalow

**THE AMAZING BIBLE RACE IS ON!** The Holy Club youth group embarks on a new adventure this month: The Amazing Bible Race! The Amazing Bible Race is a scavenger hunt through the Bible, where teams of youth challenge and compete with each other and teams all over the world, to read the entire Bible in two years. There are daily and weekly readings, team activities, and weekly online quizzes and puzzles. Each team is assigned a pair of adult coaches to cheer them on and keep them on track. All

youth grades 7-12 are invited to join the race. The Kick-off Party is set for Sunday, November 2, at



5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please call Connie Alfaro. Runners, get on your marks!

## 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)

## **FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, NOV. 30— ADVENT DINNER AROUND THE CORNER!**

With the first Sunday in Advent we will begin our tradition of preparing our hearts as we journey toward Bethlehem with the lighting of Advent candles.

The annual all church Advent (Potluck) Dinner will be held Saturday evening, Dec. 6, 2008. So make note of the date and watch for



the sign up sheet for those who wish to attend and those who want to decorate a table.

**BROWN BAG SUNDAY IS NOV. 16:** Look for brown paper grocery bags in the church lobby to fill with food stuffs for our annual collection for the Salvation Army and for our Food Pantry. Bring your bag back to church to place up by the communion table on Thanksgiving Sunday/ Reign of Christ Sunday, November 16, 2008.

## **THANKSGIVING OFFERING TO BENEFIT KATELIN WILLIAMS:**

Remember the able and charming young adult who did Time with Children in worship all of last year? Well, Katelin has graduated from college and taken a one year mission with the Mennonite Brethren in a preschool working with ESL children in Washington, D.C. This year's Thanksgiving offering will go toward Katelin's support. Although she is provided with room and board she only receives a \$50.00 allowance for the month. You can keep up with her work on her blog at [www.blogspot.com](http://www.blogspot.com). Or write to her.



## November Birthdays!

Danielle Spencer 11/03

Jerry Yang 11/03

Pauline Eastham 11/05

Margaret Nicholls 11/05

Edith Davis 11/06

Susan Warner 11/06

Candace Yang 11/06

Barbara Grams 11/07

Maya Simpson 11/08

Lucky Cha 11/09

Bon Vang 11/09

Roberta Coon 11/10

Diane Zastovnik 11/10

Amee Moua 11/12

Nathan Yang 11/12

Robert Sinclair 11/13

Blanche Spencer 11/13

Evelyn Weiss 11/13

Bill Ames 11/14

Richard Polson 11/15

Chathavim Vang 11/15

Marlene Remer 11/16

Molly Freundt 11/17

True Moua Lee 11/20

Chufue Hang 11/21

Alicia Michel 11/21

Luke Stoddard 11/23

Connie Alfaro 11/25

Touravith Lee Jr. 11/25

Kathleen Ohama 11/25

Meng Lor 11/26

Meng Lor Xiong 11/26

LeRoy Ehresman 11/28

Ruth Lind 11/30