

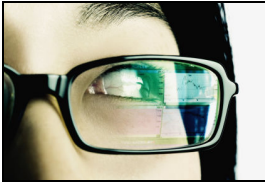


GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church June 2010 Ph: 299-4615

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

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFERING: We will collect this year's Annual Conference offering Sunday, June 13. This year's donations will support the Gilead Center for Children and the Ethelou D. Talbert Shelter in Manila, established through the Annual Conference Offering 12 years ago in honor of Bishop Melvin G. Talbert's wife. The mission of the Gilead Center is to:

provide education, food, and clothing to children suffering from the devastating effects of poverty, serve the poor in a caring and liberating way, journey with the poor in building a new heaven and a new earth. Currently the shelter is housing and serving 32 children – 15 girls and 17 boys – at a cost of \$707 per child, per year. Our goal is to raise enough funds with our offerings to provide 50% of that cost.

DONATIONS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE: In keeping with longstanding tradition, donations of cell phones, eye glasses, and hearing aids will be welcome at Annual Conference Session again this year, so bring any of those items that you are not using anymore to the church office by Sunday June 13 and we'll see that they get where they need to go!

RECOGNITION OF CONNIE ALFARO, YOUTH DIRECTOR SUNDAY 6/13: Sunday, June 13 is Recognition Sunday. That day we will not only recognize graduates, teachers and present bibles, we will also lift up our retiring Youth Director, Connie Alfaro in both services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. with a special coffee hour between services. Please be present to express your appreciation of Connie. The 0 – 120 Team is planning a separate appreciation event with all the youth whose lives have been touched by Connie's ministry later this summer. So if you have a young adult who came through youth ministry during Connie's tenure, give them a heads up to look for this opportunity.

"OPEN YOUR HEARTS AND DECIDE TO LOVE YOUR NEW PASTOR." That is the first item on the list of "50 Ways to Welcome your new Pastor" a handout that you can get on the counter in the church office. "Provide the congregation the opportunity to say thank you and good bye to the outgoing pastor, even if things have not always gone well". On Sunday, June 6, please plan to attend the farewell potluck for Pastor Denice after church. There will be tears, laughter and we can all share what she has meant to us over the last 13 years. She has truly given us her heart and been "one of us". She has never sat back, contented and comfortable. She challenged us to change and grow; we have reached out to show and tell Jesus' love everywhere. We have two important steps to take in this transition: 1) Reach Out to the Visitors! Take the time, NOW, to introduce yourself to any new people that you have noticed in church. The transition may confuse them but let them know that they are welcome and wanted in this congregation. Introduce them to others, walk them over to the coffee table, take them on a tour of the church, and find out what their needs are. This process has been in Denice's hands and before Janette has the chance to pick this up, it's up to us. 2) Meet Janette! Pastor Janette Saavedra will start on July 1. Within that first week, we will be planning small, informal meetings so Janette can meet everyone. You can sign up as a group or as an individual so look for the sign-up sheets once Janette has moved in. We did this when Denice arrived and it was very successful. When the Saavedra family moves to Clovis, they will be accompanied by a large contingent from Janette's current church, many from the Fiji culture. It is a Fiji tradition to hand the pastor over to their new congregation, and we hope that you will come to this ceremony. We don't know where or when, but as soon as we know, the message will go out through the email and the care cluster system. If you have any questions, please call Sharon Hutchinson at 299-0622.

Congregational Life

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

FIVE PRACTICES OF FRUITFUL CONGREGATIONS

WORKSHOPS AT AC OPEN TO CHURCH FOLKS: During the Annual Conference Session, June 16 - 19, there will be workshop opportunities with Bishop Schnase on the Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations as well as with Dr. McFee on Worship and Worship Arts, open to friends and neighbors of the California-Nevada United Methodist Church (as well as to non-voting members of UM churches). The workshops with Bishop Schnase and Dr. McFee are on Thursday morning June 17 at 9:45 and 10:45 a.m. There is a 15.00 registration to cover materials. In addition, there are presentations by the presenters, celebrations, and times of worship which will be open to the public.

A GIFT FOR DENICE: To honor Denice for her 13 years as our pastor, we would like to present her with a congregational gift that will remind her of Memorial United Methodist and Clovis. If you can donate what you are able in an envelope marked "DENICE" during the next few weeks, the Staff Parish Relations Committee will select a gift. Thank you!

CHAMPIONING HOSPITALITY: We've had a passion for our church home to be welcoming. In addition to keeping the grounds green and fresh, we are attempting to have the buildings clean and enjoyable for all gatherings whether for worship, meetings, work groups or social events. We've acquired a new janitorial service which is going the extra mile while learning details we need tending to. When you look around you may be pleased to notice the spotless narthex floor, clean glass on the doors and cleaned up kitchen in the Fellowship Hall. Also, the cobwebs have been removed way up high in the narthex and in the high window of the Fellowship Hall. We are getting ready for what's next with our best foot forward. If you notice something that may have been overlooked, report it to the office and the message will be forwarded to the janitor.

Because we are going down to once a week service, please take out your trash if the receptacle in your area is full especially on Sunday night because the janitorial service is on Friday. Thank you for being a part of our hospitality efforts.

- Gloria McClanahan and Jan Bennett

PARISH NURSE UPDATE: The Healthy Heart Potluck in March was well attended - actually there was space for

several more. We are always grateful for those that support our Educational programs. A humongous thank you not only to those who attended, but also to the nurses who gave their time to plan and implement not only this program, but the others as well. The most recent - many of you have obtained copies - the pink sheet for "Physician Ordered Life Sustaining Treatment - POLST" is new and hopes to eliminate some confusion in the Emergency Room - if the need arises for a person to go there. Advance Directives have been encouraged and has been mostly successful, however there is still time lost in the ER if there is not a physician order - the pink sheet remedies that! Also, with the bright pink, hopefully it won't get lost in the paper shuffle. Paper records are still a reality. The POLST form is completed then taken to the primary physician to sign - therefor making it an order. Be sure to review this information with responsible family members so there is no need to discuss when Emergency care is needed. The other card is called the "File Of Life" - when completed this card has the basic medical information - obviously name, address, etc and the current medications, allergies - a brief medical history. Be sure to include any supplements you are taking. Side effects are not always fun! It is suggested to use pencil- so you can erase - I say use pen so it doesn't fade - add a new card if you need additional space for medications. It has a plastic cover with a magnetic stripe - yes it goes on the refrigerator so it can be obtained easily to take with you for all medical visits. Time with a medical practitioner goes quickly - if one is prepared for the visit - it will give more time for the important issues. We hope to do a follow up session in the summer. All of the above is to simplify some of the medical issues. I hope you all are practicing good Health Habits - Eat nutritious foods - Exercise daily - walking is still the best, Adequate sleep - 7- 8 hours nightly, and Practice a spiritual discipline. Questions ref any of the above?? Phone the church or phone me 322 - 8525 or talk with one of the Parish Nurses after Sunday services. Best Wishes for Good Health - Physical and Spiritual. Lucy Elgin, MSN, NP

THRIFT SHOP NEWS MAY 2010: We opened on the 7th & 8th of May and ran into another holiday problem so we missed a few of our regular Saturday customers. We also struggled with a pretty chilly wind. We didn't make our \$1000 goal again this month, and again came in just under that at \$946. We did have lots of inventory, though, thanks to all your donations. We always need your donations, so keep those gently used, clean items coming. We give thanks for and to our faithful volunteers. Special thanks to Janet and Jodie - they both always go the extra mile. And we sure couldn't do it without Howard and Mac who are

always there for us (even before I arrive). Again, thanks for your support. - Submitted by Pat Frey

BOUTIQUE NEWS: I think it is time to announce a small change to the Boutique Group: Carole Schweitzer (299-3432) and Lynn Golden (348-9120) are now sharing the duties of co-chairs. The previous co-chairs, Barbara Nielsen and Louise Smith, are helping the new leaders to learn the "ropes". Thank you for your past and continued service to the Boutique Group and our church. In fact, thanks to all group members, and those who have supported the group's efforts in the past. A few Sundays ago I brought a few gift items to the church for you all to see. These items were made by the Boutique Group and are for sale. Several church members have given me positive feedback about this idea - thank you! I will continue to bring items from time to time and you can call me with your comments or interests. One last thought: keep our group in mind if you have any handmade items to donate or have craft materials to donate. Please feel free to call any Boutique Group member with questions you may have. -Submitted by Carole Schweitzer

THE FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TEAM is in need of some assistance. There are some types of upkeep and repair that currently have nobody looking after them. Our biggest need at the moment is for somebody to look after "plumbing" type issues. We're not talking rocket science here, just trying to recruit anyone with some basic DIY skills and the ability to deal with a leaky faucet or a toilet flapper. Additionally, we need someone willing to work on keeping parking lot weeds under control. Anyone interested in helping in these or any other areas should contact Jim McClanahan at 291-8403 or 392-3268.

SPECIAL FRIENDS: Special Friends gathered May 13th, sharing the MUMC Mission Statement, followed by a prayer, scripture, John 6:1-13, and singing "The Spirit Song." The Meditation came from the Upper Room May and June Issue, reminding us of the role of the Holy Spirit sharing our acts of kindness to others with God. We reviewed the special friend's list and heard reports on visits and contacts during the month. Sunday May 16th the Parish Nurses will pass out medical forms, and also information cards that will be on file at the church in the event of an emergency. The next meeting will be Thursday June 10th at 3:30 pm. Closing thought: The Holy Spirit works through anything we do or say in love. Blessings, Lorraine May

GOD BLESS TEXAS! OK, it is a country song, but more than that, Austin, Texas is where Tom and I will make our next home! As I leave Friday to join him, I want to thank

everyone for showing us so much love during our time here. We have so many wonderful memories of MUMC, our first church home as a married couple, and wish everyone God's blessings and love. Both Tom's and my email addresses and phone numbers on the directory will remain the same, and our address AFTER July 15th will be 406 Fall Ave, Kyle, TX 78640. Brightest Blessings, Tom and Asima Foster.

YOUTH CALENDAR

- ☼ **SUNDAY 06/06/10**
 - ☼ **10:30 AM COMBINED SERVICE - DENICE'S LAST**
 - ☼ **12 NOON - CELEBRATION POTLUCK FOR DENICE, SOCIAL HALL**
 - ☼ **5:00 PM MOVIE NITE, BUNGALOW**
 - ☼ **5:00 PM PTO POTLUCK/MOVIE NITE, SOCIAL HALL**
- ☼ **SUNDAY 06/13/10**
 - ☼ **RECOGNITION SUNDAY FOR GRADUATES & CONNIE**
 - ☼ **5:30 P.M. HOLY CLUB MEETING, BUNGALOW**
- ☼ **SUNDAY 06/20/10**
 - ☼ **5:30 P.M. HOLY CLUB MEETING, BUNGALOW**
- ☼ **SATURDAY 06/26/10**
 - ☼ **8:00 A.M. POVERELLO HOUSE WORK DAY**
- ☼ **SUNDAY 06/27/10**
 - ☼ **5:30 P.M. HOLY CLUB MEETING, BUNGALOW**

FROM THE PASTOR

COACHES CORNER

At the Re-Think Conference Day, Bishop Brown made it very clear: Churches are to be mission focused. Clergy are to be mission focused. Churches are to be mission driven, not preference driven; outward focused not inward preoccupied. Whether a church is mission focused affects how long the Bishop will leave a pastor in place. He expects progress. That progress is to occur within a 5 - 7 year time frame, possibly 8 or 9 if things are really moving along.

This year at annual conference one of the main agenda items will be Direct Billing of Pension for pastors. Right now we apportion our conference pension obligation out across all of the churches. Direct Billing means every church will pay for its pastor's pension directly as part of compensation. This will remove the majority of the pension obligation from the apportionment funds, making it easier to see how our connectional funds are

truly missional and helping local churches understand the full cost in terms of compensation for their pastor.

Annual Conference this year will not be business as usual. The Bishop has reorganized the conference agenda to include major education in the Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations with Bishop Schanse. Our Spiritual Leaders have all received a copy of this book. We decided it made the most sense for those teams focusing on each of the five fruitful practices to read the chapter in the book related to them: Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service and Extravagant Generosity.

There is a small three session workbook for each of these practices for each team to use with its team members. Also, a CD of Bishop Schanse's presentations is available from the conference for \$25.00. I recommend purchasing the CD and using it this next year. Workbooks for the teams are available in the church office. You will need to read the book Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations before using the workbook. Let the office know if you want to order a copy.

Well, this is my last Coaches Corner with you—you've been a fabulous team!! I've enjoyed every minute and thank you for your grace, persevering enthusiasm and willingness to work hard and move forward in mission. God's bless you all and the future! Pastor Denice

LESLIE'S SALT SHAKER: It's time for me to say farewell as your pastor and join you as your friend in the Clovis community and in the pew. I look forward with you to the coming of your new pastor, Janette Saavedra. I know you are going to enjoy her and her family immensely! I am excited about her coming to Clovis!

A special word of thanks to the United Methodist Women and the Boutique for hosting the Parsonage Shower for me and my mom's new home. Your generosity has provided us with the vast majority of the household items we will need and I just can't thank you enough!! Having these needs met has been a huge financial relief! Not to mention the fact that it is just plain fun to have new things!! Please come and visit us when you get a minute: just take 99 north to Mitchell Rd. Take Mitchell and then turn left on Hatch. From Hatch, turn right on Santa Fe, left on Seventh and take Seventh to Fox. The church is located on Fox between Sixth and Seventh Streets. The parsonage is the first house just past the church campus on Sixth. Worship is at 10:30 a.m.

What I really want to do in this article, however, is lift up someone who deserves our thanks and praise in a

really big way: Connie Alfaro. Connie has served as our Director of Youth for the last nine years. Week in and week out Connie made our young people in Middle School through High School and sometimes recent graduates, a priority; organizing weekly programs, teaching Sunday School, spending more nights than I care to think about chaperoning all night Lock-ins in the Fellowship Hall, organizing 30 Hour Famine's year in and year out, keeping our young people focused on mission and service with monthly service at Poverello House, annual 30 Hour Famine fundraising for hunger including Souper Bowl Sundays and Heifer Project International, and our United Methodist Committee on Relief.

Connie has always gone the extra mile doing whatever was required of her to meet the needs of the situation such as teaching and even rewriting curriculum for True Love Waits. Connie met with me regularly to discuss our youth and youth ministry as well as meeting with the Youth Board and now the 0 – 120 Team monthly for planning.

Connie has also been the person who has taken the lead in major all church events such as the Live Nativity which she did a very lovely, calm and thorough job of orchestrating all of the scenes and the scene volunteers. Connie is one of those people who never recites to you everything she is doing around here—she just serves! All the while working full time and mothering two growing sons.

But what I really appreciate about Connie is that she was someone I could count on. I never worried about whether Connie was on task! Her personal work ethic, integrity and congruence of personhood with high ethical standards are beyond reproach. Selfless, loving, giving, organized, diplomatic, thoughtful and hardworking—we all owe her a debt of gratitude. I am glad to call her my friend! And praise God for her call to Christian service. I ask that you join me in honoring Connie as she concludes her service as our youth director. She will be mentoring our new youth director Sara Glazebrook this month and passing the baton. The 0-120 Team has a thank you planned that will give you all an opportunity to express your appreciation, so watch the Good News, the MUMC email and Care Cluster calls for more information.

Once more—the time has been toooo short! Seems like just yesterday when I first started here. Much love to all of you and may God richly bless you and your ministry in this community in the years ahead! Until we meet again,

- Denice Leslie