



GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United
Methodist Church September 2007

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Welcome to Kelly Newell!! – We celebrate the addition of Kelly Newell to our Conference Ministry Staff as the coordinator of Youth and Camping ministries. Kelly holds a Masters degree in Bilingual/Multicultural Education from CSU Chico. She has served as owner and director of Snow Mountain Camp, and has been the Youth Director for both the Nevada City UMC and Aldersgate UMC in Chico. In addition, Kelly is an accreditation site visitor for the American Camp Association and is conference Chair for the Western Association of Independent Camps. Welcome, Kelly!

WELCOME NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR-CHOIR RESUMES

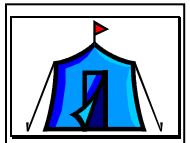
We are pleased to have Scott Hatfield as our new Music Director. Scott will be directing both the Praise Team and the Chancel choir and hopes to expand the music program to children and youth. Scott will oversee the entire music program of the church in addition to directing and playing the Clavinova. If you enjoy singing, the chancel choir rehearses Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and the Praise Team rehearses just before at 7:00 p.m.



ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, September 30 at 4:00 p.m. in the Social Hall with Fresno Korean Fellowship and our Hmong congregation. The Staff Parish Relations Committee will meet with our new District Superintendent at 3:15 p.m.

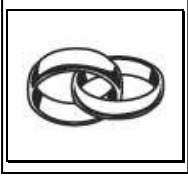
CHURCH FAMILY CAMP SEPT. 21-23 One more time! The Annual Church Family Camp Out has been re-scheduled for September 21-23, 2007 at San Simeon State Park. Please let Connie Alfaro know ASAP if you and your family are planning to go so we can reserve enough camp sites. We will also need volunteers willing to go early Friday September 21 to help reserve the spaces needed. If you have any questions, please call Connie.



CLOVIS FEST SIGN UPS NOW FOR PEPSI BOOTH

We are very fortunate to have secured the Pepsi and water booth at this year's Clovis Fest on Saturday and Sunday, September 29 and 30. This fundraiser will benefit the deficit in our general fund and provide us with a great opportunity to be visible in our community and help people know we are here. Please save the date and either sign up on Sundays in the narthex or call LaDonna Snow. If you are a leader involved in SPRC or Church Conference, please sign up for a Saturday or early Sunday shift. Yes—some of you will be worshipping through service that Sunday.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



NEW FORMAT FOR ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Friday Evening September 21 – Saturday, September 22. Engaged, or recently married couples will benefit from the Engaged Encounter weekend. The next Engaged Encounter – United Methodist Weekend will be held just Friday Evening September 21 and all day Saturday, September 22 in the greater Sacramento area. Cost of the weekend will be \$250/ couple. Comments from couples who have attended: “It was an unforgettable experience for both of us. We heard about marriage in a positive way.” “We became more certain of our decision to marry. We were able to concentrate on our relationship without the everyday distractions.” The topics of communication, meeting each others needs, and commitment, and etc. will also be a help to recently married couples. For brochures and registration information call (916-781-6785) or email – jsangove@surewest.net Couples may also register on line at www.encounter.org

JOY BRUNCH - Replacing the pot luck format of Joy in the Morning will be a lovely brunch with original menus created by the Fundraising Team. The refreshing menu for September 30 will be: Special Brunch Eggs; Ham; Fruit; Morning Glory Muffins; Coffee, Tea and Fruit Punch. This brunch will be hosted by Molly Lovgren and Charlene DeTurk. Watch the church bulletins for reservation details and prices.



UMM BREAKFAST MEETING September 1, 2007- United Methodist Men will meet 9/1/07 and enjoy Howard’s delicious pancakes with maple-flavored sausages. Whether we have a presenter is yet to be determined. If not, we’ll select a scripture for our worship that will stimulate discussion. The Methodist Church is a church with Open Hearts, Open Doors, Open Minds so bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

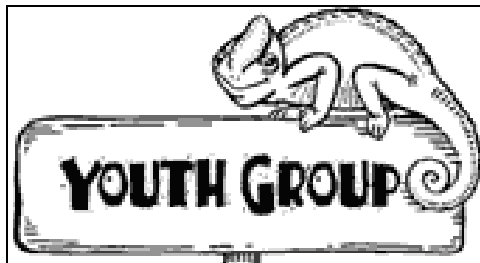
UMW News

- Sept 12: Red Bird Circle 9:30 am in the Library.
- Sept 18: Regular meeting 10 am in the social hall. World Thanks Offering - Newell Knudson. Luncheon Hosts - Wesley Circle. Bring your own service and your ‘Blue Boxes’ full. All women are invited.
- Sept. 26: Wesley Circle – lunch out pending Yosemite Falls 1 pm Call Judy Gross for info.

Crop Walk October 14th- CROP Walkers, set the date aside. The annual Fresno-Clovis Communities Reaching Out to People Walk for the Hungry will take place Sunday October 14th at 2:30. This year our 3-mile stroll will begin at the United Christian Church, 1038 W. Shields Avenue in Fresno. Get your walking shoes out and your sponsors lined up for this wonderful event. For more information on our local walk, see Sue DeFranco. For additional information on CROP Walks and Church World Service nationally and around the globe, visit the website at www.churchworldservice.org.



What? A Giant Yard Sale! When? October 6, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - The Fundraising Team has approved a Giant Yard Sale to support the Mission Thrift Store. Yes, we're taking the challenge and offering a huge, giant yard sale open to the public on Saturday, October 6. Start setting things aside and plan to bring any items including clothing, furniture, appliances, working TV's, audio equipment, etc. that you somehow never got to the Thrift Store. Ask your neighbors, friends and relatives for items to donate. No pianos, organs or computers can be accepted. Be sure the items you bring are in as good condition and as clean as you would give to a friend. We have no way to haul rejects to the dump. We will be selling all kinds of items, nothing too big or too small, and proceeds will be contributed to the Mission Thrift Shop funds. Does anyone have an automobile to donate? It would be exciting to auction. We will have donation receipts for everyone. Remaining items after the yard sale will be fit into the thrift store or donated to various charities. Does anyone have more ideas? We are open to them!! Concerns may include safety of the property and persons participating, layout, publicity, etc. Let us know. You may begin bringing things that fit in your car to patio area outside the narthex after church on all Sundays in September. The fellowship hall will be used for receipt of large pieces, storage and sorting on October 2 through 5. You may bring large things in the morning or evening on those days. Inform us if you have unwieldy items like furniture and no way to get them to us, and we will arrange for pick ups. We will need a set up crew and tear down crew. We will need many hands and eyes to host the crowd. That day we will have jobs where you may sit down and there is no lifting or "gallivanting" around. We will also have persons to collect money from sales and others to assist with sales. It will be exciting and fun—don't miss it. The more helpers, the shorter time your "shift" will be. Of course, we want you to come and buy and enjoy seeing friends and have a good time. For more info call Gloria McClanahan



Youth Events

- Sunday 09/02/07 5:00-7:30 pm Movie Nite (Bungalow)
- Saturday 09/08/07 Heifer Project Ranch Field Trip
- Sunday 09/09/07 5:30-7:30 pm Youth Meeting (Bungalow)
- Sunday 09/16/07 5:30-7:30 pm Youth Meeting (Bungalow)
- Sunday 09/23/07 5:30-7:30 pm Youth Meeting (Bungalow)
- Saturday 09/29/07 8:00 am - 12:00 pm youth Poverello House Work Day
- Sunday 09/30/07 NO YOUTH MEETING!

RALLY DAY SUN. SEPT. 9

Sunday School students of all ages are invited to our annual celebration of Sunday School on Rally Day, Sept. 9. Join your teachers and fellow students in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. for goodies and activities. You can visit your classrooms and help us pick out our Heifer Project animal for the year. See you there!



Notes

Boutique Reminder
Please remember the boutique when you are making that batch of jam or jelly, and set aside a few jars for the Country Store. We also look forward to your donations of craft and handwork items. We welcome new members, so come join us on Wednesday mornings. We are sponsoring a missionary this year. Carol Partridge is a missionary of the General Board of Global Ministries of the UMC. She is Director of Christian Education for the United Methodist Church of Macedonia. She works especially with children, youth and women. We welcome your support in this worthwhile endeavor. The boutique will be held November 9th and 10th of this year. Thank you, The Boutique Group



PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND A single strand of thread is limited in its use. So is a single dollar. By weaving and combining several strands into a cord or rope each strand becomes more useful! Likewise by investing our dollars with others' in our church's Permanent Endowment Fund our church's mission goals can be met. If you would like to learn more about how to weave your mission goals into our Permanent Endowment Fund, please speak with Rick Hutchinson.

Sanctuary Renovation
A Point of Clarification: The whole sanctuary project was funded with funds outside the working budget of the church. The amounts borrowed from the Extension Society are being fully repaid by renovation pledges made before the project began.
A Point of Inspiration: Remodeling the sanctuary was the first of the renovation items needing attention. Keeping up a church is an ongoing situation. Just like our own personal items, property and bodies, they constantly need maintenance and upgrading.
A Point of Appreciation: Thank you for keeping up the pledges. If you have not participated in the renovation/upgrades of our facility, it is never too late. This can be done through a monthly commitment of a particular amount, or a one-time yearly donation. Please do not hesitate to call or talk to me in person. I would be happy to discuss future plans and needs.
Gloria McClanahan, Renovation Team



Computer - Newell Knudson has a new computer and wants to give the old one to someone who can use and appreciate it. It is an 8yr old HP Pavilion computer with a Windows 98 operating system. If you are in need of a computer, you can call the church office at 299-4615.

Special Care Team Volunteers Needed – If you want to help meet people’s spiritual need and have 2-4 hours a week that you can volunteer, contact Chaplain Ren Adams at Kaiser Permanente Hospital, 7300 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93720. Or call 559-448-3243. Training is offered to all volunteers Sept. 22, 2007. Volunteers are needed for all medical/surgery floors, critical care, pre operation, the emergency department, and the oncology office.

Thrift Shop News – The ‘long hot days of summer’ were certainly with us when we were open on the 3rd and 4th of August. Remember that 107°!! A big thank you goes to our faithful volunteers who went above and beyond due to some of our help being absent for summer plans. Our preliminary count for the month is \$900. Again, none of this would be possible without the wonderful donations of clean and useable items. Thanks to all of you who donated. Come join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, when we sort and price items or for fun and fellowship when we’re open on the 1st Friday and Saturday of each month. Submitted by Margie Magargee



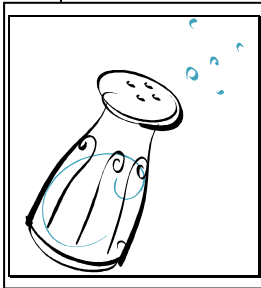
School Supplies for Katrina Cooperative Parish Ministry

It has become a tradition at Memorial to gather school supplies for students in need at the beginning of a new school year. Our recipients this year will be the Cooperative Parish Ministry of Cornerstone, Covenant, and Hartzell United Methodist, our Katrina covenant churches. You may bring supplies such as markers, scissors, glue, tape, pencils, etc. and deposit them in the box in the narthex. I will invite the pastors there to decide if they would like to use what we send for their Sunday Schools or if they would like to distribute to children in need in their neighborhoods. Giving a monetary gift is especially appropriate because they can then purchase exactly what they need. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please make your check out to MUMC and notate “Katrina School Supplies” in the memo section. I will mail our gifts at the end of the last week in August. I would also ask you, whether or not you are donating supplies or funds, to take a few minutes to write a personal note appropriate for a student preparing for the new school year. A few lines of encouragement and hope could mean a lot to a young person who has had their life turned upside down by the events of two years ago. A box will be provided for your notes as well. For more information, see Sue DeFranco.



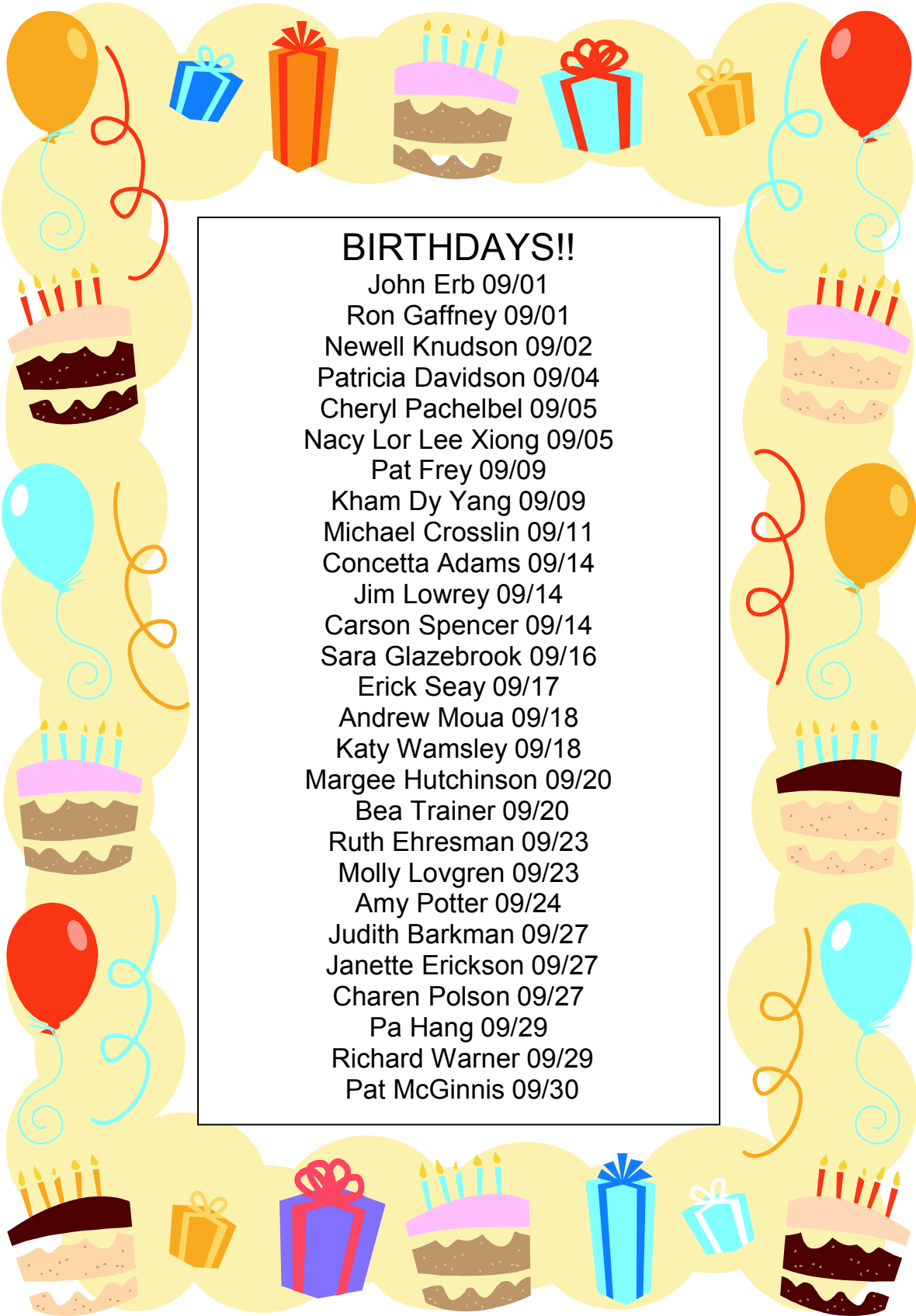
LESLIE'S SALT SHAKER - I want to take this column to thank everyone for their cards and presence at the ice cream social 10th anniversary of my service here at Memorial. We had a good time and great ice cream! I especially thank you for the Margaret Hudson Holy Family. I have admired Margaret's figures in her studio and we will treasure and enjoy these for years to come. I want to thank Barbara and Roger Grams for MCing the evening with their good fun and humor. Barbara's Jelly Belly car kit was really, really cute! And the DeniceOmeter take off on the Meyer's Briggs Personality Type Indicator was a kick. Wasn't Pastor Kham Dy's video presentation touching? I can't help but feel a lump in my throat when I view this. It was a powerful reminder of the way in which God is at work in our lives and through our ministry here together. I recently completed a week of sermon planning following a Sunday at First UMC, Oroville, where Kim preached for their 150 anniversary. During my sermon planning retreat I had time to pray and reflect. I realized that because this is the longest pastorate of my vocation how important it is to be attuned to God's leading for the present as well as for the future. It is so easy for us as United Methodist pastors to move on to another church, recycle the things we've done in the past and not truly consider or tackle our own need for deeper spiritual growth so we can be more effective spiritual leaders in our congregations. It is my sincere hope that as we move together into the future we will be companions and pilgrims together on the journey of faith and recognize that it is indeed this journey that is our destination, our home. I will close with the words I shared with you at the 10th anniversary, the words of Dag Hammerskjold, "For all that has been: Yes! And for all that will be: Thanks!"

With thanksgiving and appreciations, Pastor Denice Leslie



COACHES CORNER

Being pilgrims on the journey of faith requires spiritual companions and spiritual nourishment. I am inquiring among you as to your interest in being a part of cell groups. An experience of cell groups is one of the gifts I brought home with me from Korea. Cell groups are small, confidential, groups of men or of women (no more than 5 or 6) who meet regularly (bi-monthly or weekly) for an hour. The format for the group is very simple: a brief scripture, inspirational reading for meditation or instruction on the Christian life, followed by a time of sharing and lifting up our needs in prayer with a brief "Hear our prayer" following each person's sharing to which the group responds together after each petition: "Amen." The group closes reciting the Lord's Prayer together and then dismisses. The scripture and reading or instruction is the same for all the groups and is provided by the pastor. Sometimes there are things to take home for personal reading and reflection. In this way we watch over one another in love, support one another in our daily walk and unite us all in a common direction. Newer disciples are nurtured and support by the example of the more mature in faith. If you would like to participate or convene a group speak to me. I will be forming cells from the list I am compiling this fall. Grace and peace, Pastor Denice



BIRTHDAYS!!

John Erb 09/01
Ron Gaffney 09/01
Newell Knudson 09/02
Patricia Davidson 09/04
Cheryl Pachelbel 09/05
Nacy Lor Lee Xiong 09/05
Pat Frey 09/09
Kham Dy Yang 09/09
Michael Crosslin 09/11
Concetta Adams 09/14
Jim Lowrey 09/14
Carson Spencer 09/14
Sara Glazebrook 09/16
Erick Seay 09/17
Andrew Moua 09/18
Katy Wamsley 09/18
Margee Hutchinson 09/20
Bea Trainer 09/20
Ruth Ehresman 09/23
Molly Lovgren 09/23
Amy Potter 09/24
Judith Barkman 09/27
Janette Erickson 09/27
Charen Polson 09/27
Pa Hang 09/29
Richard Warner 09/29
Pat McGinnis 09/30