



GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United
Methodist Church April 2008

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Rational Christianity:

Leader: Dr. George Elgin

Text: Rational Christianity by Dr. Elgin

Time: Monday afternoons at 1pm or Monday evenings at 7:30

April 7, 14, 21 and 28

Subjects: -Choosing a God to worship
-God's greatest gifts
-God's greatest Messenger
-God's greatest invitation

Registration: call 299-4615 (church office) or the Elgin's.

BIG PIE BAKE SALE April 20: After the worship service on Sunday, April 20, the youth group will hold a Big PIE Bake Sale, to benefit the Pay Indebtedness Early drive. If you would like to donate pies or other baked items for the sale, please see Connie Alfaro or call her. You may deliver the items to the church that morning. Thank you for your support!

Dream Seminar: "Dream your way to greater success, improved relationships, and deeper spiritual guidance."

-Dates: April 25 from 7-9pm and April 26 from 9am to 4pm.

-Dream guides: Lucy Elgin, NP, MSN and George Elgin, D Min., M Ed. The Elgins have been dream guides for over 20 years. They have conducted seminars in many places, lead dream groups and assisted individuals in understanding and making use of their dreams.

-Location: Memorial United Methodist Church (education building) 1726 Pollasky Ave. Clovis, Ca 93612.

-Cost: \$20 per person – this includes the text, handouts and lunch on Saturday. Scholarships are available to MUMC members.

-Registration: call the Elgin's or 299-4615 (church office) or send an e-mail.

Stewardship and Administration

Fresno District Lay Leadership

Academy Empowering laity for the work of ministry in the local church.

April 12, 2008 Sponsored by the Fresno District Council on Ministries

The Fresno District Council on Ministries serves to strengthen the connection, improve communication, and empower local churches in their mission by providing training and events best done through pooling resources and cooperating with one another. **Lay Leadership** is a vital part of a healthy and growing congregation. **The Lay Leadership Academy** will meet quarterly throughout the Fresno District. **Lay Leaders** can attend courses on Arts in Worship, Conference Connections, Prayer, Evangelism, Bible Study, Preaching, and the Basic and Advanced Lay Speakers Training. Classes will be taught by District Pastors and Laity and Conference Staff. **Who should attend: Lay leaders, Lay Speakers, and other Key Leaders of your church.** **Future Dates:** April 12, 2008 at Delano UMC; July 19, 2008 at Visalia UMC; October 25, 2008 at St. Pauls UMC, Fresno. Courses Offered:

Workshop 1: 9:30am-10:55am

1. Basic Course Session 3: Called to Witness and Teach, led by Elmar DeOcera
2. Advanced Course: Lay Speakers are Accountable Disciples led by Anne Schlesinger

3. Small Groups: led by Mike Harrell
 4. Preaching 101: Led by Mariellen Sawada-Yoshino
 5. Conference Connections: Volunteers in Mission, Sue King
- Workshop 2: 11:05am -12:30pm**
6. Basic Course Session 4: Called to Leadership and Service, led by Elmar DeOcera
 7. Advanced Course: Lay Speakers are Accountable Disciples led by Anne Schlesinger
 8. Small Groups: led by Mike Harrell
 9. Preaching 101: Practicum led by Mariellen Sawada-Yoshino
 10. Conference Connections: Volunteers in Mission, Sue King

For more information and to sign up for courses check out the Fresno District website, fdumc.org

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

UMW News:

April Calendar:

* No board meeting this month

-April 9th: red Bird Circle 9:30 am in the Library

-April 15th: Regular meeting at 10am in the Social Hall. Program: flower arranging. Bring your own service for a luncheon afterwards. Executive Board hosts.

-April 23rd: Wesley Circle at 1pm in the Social Hall

Special Friends: Tuesday March 11th, the Special Friends group met in the Lose Library at 1:30 pm. Attending were Dee Carr, Pat Frey, Nancy Locke, Max Cannon, Janet Bonzo, Pauline Middleton, John Tallmadge, Evelyn Haulman, Pastor Denice Leslie, and Lorraine May. We gathered with the reading of the MUMC Mission statement, followed by prayer. The Bible reading was Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and loving to each other, and forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ." Worship continued with a devotional from Grace for the Moment, by Max Lucado. He spoke of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples. We joined in singing the hymn, Are Ye Able. We briefly shared our personal joys and concerns. During our reports on Special Friends, we shared the joy of helping Stella Schaa celebrate her 100th birthday at her home, March 10th. In February, 74 cards were sent, 56 phone calls made, 29 visits to hospitals and homes, and 10 letters were written. New members are welcome at our next meeting Tuesday, April 18th at 1:30 pm in the Lose Library. A closing thought: As you wash our feet, dear Jesus, please come into our hearts to stay. -Blessings, Lorraine May

THRIFT SHOP NEWS Another Thrift Shop weekend is over and we did very well. We were missing a few volunteers again, with the UMW retreat and illness. But we managed and took in a preliminary amount of \$1022. We had a really big day on Friday, taking in almost double of Saturday's receipts. But we were steadily busy on Saturday. Praise God for all our

blessings! Janet Bonzo helped out on both mornings again. Other faithful workers came in and worked a shift. Additionally, we have gained one of the workers from child care, whom we warmly welcome and give thanks for her too. She is a wonderful asset. Thanks to all. Again, we were able to reach out and show God's love to someone in need. We are thankful for this opportunity. We have already worked one day for our next opening. We found lots of treasures and many nice clothes. Thanks to those faithful volunteers who came in so soon after we were open, to help with that. We especially thank the family of Dolores Nelson and Howard and Sandy Cook for many nice things. Once more we ask that you keep us in your prayers as we tirelessly work this ministry. Also remember us with all the neat clean things you're throwing away. We still need kitchen things. But we will take whatever you have that we can sell. Books, especially paper backs, always. Thank you again for all your support.

-Submitted by Pat Frey

P.S. Your donations make the Mission Thrift Shop possible, and are part of your personal outreach to the world. Thank you! However, when you have valuable items to give, please contact either Pat Frey or Margie Magargee who will arrange to have someone meet you at the shop to receive your donations and write a receipt if desired. This past month over \$50.00 worth of donations were stolen from the paper shed.

YOUTH

Saturday 04/05/08

-3:30-5:30 p.m. Help at Pepsi Booth

Sunday 04/06/08

-1:30-3:30 p.m. Help at Pepsi Booth

-5:00 p.m. Youth Movie Nite (Bungalow)

Sunday 04/13/08

-5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting (Bungalow)

Saturday 04/19/08

-8:00 a.m. Poverello House Work Day **

Sunday 04/20/08

-10:30 a.m. Youth Worship Service
-BIG PIE BAKE SALE (after Worship)
-No Youth Group

Saturday 04/26/08

-Youth to IFYA Earth Day Clean-Up

Sunday 04/27/08

-5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting (Bungalow)

**NOTE: Different day - Third instead of fourth Saturday



EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP SAT.

April 26: The International Faith Youth Alliance is holding its annual inner city Earth Day clean-up day on Saturday April 26, and our youth group is invited to participate. Our music director, Scott Hatfield, and Pastor Kim Leslie are both involved with this interdenominational youth organization, which encourages and empowers youth to celebrate the religious diversity of our nation. The youth are also encouraged to work together in community service projects. More information about IFYA is available at www.ifya-net.org.

This year, Scott and Kim are especially inviting our youth group to participate in the Earth Day Clean-up. This event will be in addition to our regular Poverello House Work Day, which will be moved to Saturday, April 19. More information will follow. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Connie Alfaro.