



GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church June 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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RECOGNITION SUNDAY JUNE 8: We will recognize our graduates, our staff and our teachers on Sunday June 8 as well as present bibles to young people. Please be present to show your appreciation.

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY MEETING SUNDAY JUNE 8: If you usher or greet, stand at the guest book, handout name tags, serve refreshments, make P.I.E. calls or are just called to welcome folks, you are invited to a meeting in the Lose Library after worship on Sunday June 8. A light lunch will be served. We will be reorganizing into Sunday morning hospitality teams. Please let Shirley Loakes know if you will be present by calling the church office at 299-4615.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE WELCOMES VISITORS JUNE 18-21: The annual meeting of our California-Nevada Conference is June 18 – 21 at the Sacramento Community (Convention) Center on J St between 13th and 15th streets. Visitors are welcome. To see the schedule go to cnumc.org and click on Annual Conference. On that page click on Annual Conference Session and go to the ACS letter for a schedule. Seating for visitors is provided in the exhibit hall where the plenary sessions are held and each evening offers an inspirational opportunity including the Celebration of Bishop Shamana on her retirement as our Bishop Friday evening. You may contact the office for details if you do not have internet access. The Conference Offering for this year will be on 6/15/08. The offering will support two projects close to the heart of our Bishop. Half of the offering will be used to fund grants for creative arts ministries that support the making of Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World, and in recognition of Bishop Shamana's commitment to our partnership with the West Angola Conference of the United Methodist Church, half of the offering will be used to fund an agricultural irrigation project that teaches local farmers ways to increase food production for their families and community. We will also collect eyeglasses and old cell phones to take with us. Bring these items to the church and place them in the collection boxes located in the Narthex by June 15. Thank you so much for your help.

CHURCH SHOPPING BAGS: We now have reusable shopping bags with the Methodist logo on them. They are available in the Narthex or the office for only \$1.50 each. You can probably use several for trips to the grocery store. Reusable bags help reduce waste and our dependence on billions of plastic bags made from oil.

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW: A MUSICAL CONCERT featuring our own Scott Hatfield will be June 28, at 7:00 p.m., in the sanctuary. The tickets are \$15.00 for the concert and dessert. Scott will make this a wonderful concert, so let's sell out. The proceeds will go toward burning the mortgage on the social hall.

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

REACHING A YOUNGER GENERATION MEETS SUNDAY JUNE 22:

If you are interested in being a part of the new service ministry, please accept this invitation to meet with the team at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 22 at Roger and Cheryl Pachelbel's house.

NETWORK—GET CONNECTED JUNE 25:

What's happening with.....? Have they considered...? Why don't we...? What happened to...? How do I find new folks for my team...? Who are these new people around here?

Have these kinds of questions? Leaders of MUMC ministries and mission teams, fellowships and groups meet to coordinate, network, connect with new folks, get help, do Q & A and pray together monthly on the last Wednesday of the month, June 25, in the Social Hall. Network is the heartbeat of the body of Christ here at Memorial. Don't be left out of the communication loop—if you can't come send a team member.

WORSHIP SURVEY RESULTS: Thank you to everyone who took time to respond to the survey regarding your preference for the scheduling of the current worship service. We've had a nearly 95% return rate and still counting. Although Sunday, May 18 was the deadline for returning the survey, if you have not responded you may still do so as this remains a work in progress. Max Cannon, Co-Chair of Worship Plan Team is making follow up calls for any who may have been confused by how to fill out the survey. The request was to indicate your preferred time for the current worship service and the choices were 9:30 a.m. or 11 a.m. If you didn't get an opportunity to respond, please call the church office at 299-4615 and leave your name, your preference of either 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. for the current worship. The new service will be scheduled for the opposite time. Thank you!

THRIFT SHOP NEWS: It doesn't seem possible that another month has slipped away! But we were open the 2nd and 3rd of May so another month surely has passed. We had a decent weekend but fell somewhat below our April proceeds. Still, we took in just under \$900 with preliminary count being \$883. It was a slow Saturday as compared to some others - our biggest day was on Friday. I want to again recognize our faithful volunteers who come in and help with all the sorting, pricing and other jobs associated with getting ready for the 2 days we are open. We usually only ask them to work 2 Tuesdays in addition to the open days but we have been so blessed with donations that we have had to ask for much more. And they always come through for us. We are looking forward to another open weekend in May. We were fortunate to receive two households of excesses when the occupants were placed in assisted living. We were running low on kitchen items again so we welcomed this blessing. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers. We know God hears all of them and has generously blessed us so please don't stop. Also, again, remember us with all the neat clean things you're throwing away. Thank you again for all your support.

-Submitted by Pat Frey

BOUTIQUE NEWS: We decided to trim our supplies budget to the bone and contribute \$500 to the P.I.E. fund. We have a vested interest in the Social Hall, since it's our "home". If you have any extra fabric or craft supplies choking your closets we are always grateful for any donations. We have added several new members to our group and now number 17! It's a great bunch of women of all levels of skills and interests. We have a wonderful time and welcome anyone who likes to sew or craft. We are easy-going, no production requirements, supplies and encouragement freely furnished. We meet every Wednesday morning from 9:00 to 11:15 am in the Social Hall (south door). Most of us go out to lunch afterwards. Come as often as you can, but we will miss you if you can't get there. Watch for details of our upcoming "Check Us Out" coffee. Come and see what we are all about with no strings (or ravelings) attached.

-Barbara

SPECIAL FRIENDS: Beginning with the reading of the Mission Statement of MUMC, John, Dee, Pastor Denice, Nancy L, Pat, Lorraine, and new member Nancy Enloe gathered and were led in prayer. Deuteronomy 4:29 tells us that if seeking the Lord your God, you will find him if you look for him with your heart and your soul. This message was reinforced with the devotional "Seeking God" from an April issue of the Upper Room. With the author's eyes ready to see and her ears ready to hear, she understood God in a new way, finding Him everywhere and always with her. The song following was "Seek Ye the Lord". We shared our own joys and concerns and reported the joys of Betty Skidmore and Novelle Rogers having new residences in separate private board and care homes. We also shared cares and concerns of other special friends. As new business we received three requests from the Network Group involving workings of the church. April's service to friends included 23 visits plus 20 hospital visits at St. Agnes by Pat, 65 phone calls, 69 cards, 3 letters, and 5 grief booklets. With this thought from the Senior's Devotional Bible, "As you go from here, look back on how God has cared for you throughout your life and commit yourself anew to Him as you trust Him to care for you all your life long" we were dismissed until the next meeting Tuesday, June 10th, at 1:30 pm. We welcome new members.

-Blessings, Lorraine

DVD'S NEEDED: The toddler nursery is in need of Children's DVD's. If you have some to donate, please contact Dorrie.

NURSERY USE: If you need to use the baby nursery, please contact our child care coordinator to have a worker available for you. We need to have a child care worker in the nursery whenever there are children. It also needs to be cleaned after each use. Thank you -Dorrie Osback-Rose, Child Care Coordinator

UMW NEWS: We want to extend an invitation to all women and girls – young or old to come to a Picnic on June 24 at 11am in the Social Hall for fun and games. Lunch will be at 12:30. See you all there! Red Birds and Wesley circles are dark until September.

A NOTE OF THANKS: Just want to say Thank You to everyone who called and sent cards to me during my recovery from surgery. Everything went well, but my Fibromyalgia is making it a slow comeback to normal health and activities. Thank you to all of my Church Family.

-Love Marlene Remer

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN GROUP FORMING:

If you would like to be part of a small group of families with young children please call Pastor Denice. Stay at home mom's may be interested in a Mom's group too. We will try to coordinate schedules so at least one spouse and the children can gather for a get acquainted time. Maybe a swim and eat at Pastor Denice's.

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH CALENDAR:

★Sunday 06/01/08 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Parents Time Out/PTO (Fellowship Hall)

5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Youth

Movie Nite (Bungalow)

★Sunday 06/08/08 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Youth Meeting (Bungalow)

★Sunday 06/15/08 NO YOUTH GROUP - Be good to your dads today!

★Sunday 06/22/08 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Welcome Seventh Graders Swim Party/BBQ

★Saturday 06/28/08 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Youth Poverello House Work Day

★Sunday 06/29/08 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Youth Meeting (Bungalow)

WELCOME 7th GRADERS PARTY JUNE 22:

On Sunday June 22, the youth group will hold our annual "Welcome Party" for our new 7th graders. We will meet at 4:00 p.m. for swimming, BBQ burgers and dogs, and lots of fun. If you know of a seventh grader (or any youth grades 7-12) who would like to join us for this and other fun events, please invite them! More information about location and food will follow. If you have any questions, contact Youth Worker Connie Alfaro at connie@clovismumc.org.

Stewardship and Administration

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT: In the past year your Permanent Endowment Committee has placed encouraging reminders in this space to share with you that our church has a long-range plan for our funding needs. Thankfully, some of you have committed to add to our Permanent Endowment Fund to help with the future missions of our church. These gifts will keep on giving long past our individual life spans. If you would like to learn more about it, please speak with Rick Hutchinson.

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)*

WORSHIP PLANNING SUMMARY May 10, 2008: The Worship Planning Team had another productive meeting on May 10. Included in the agenda were updates on plans for the second English Language service and preliminary results of the survey suggesting that most prefer the 11:00 a.m. time for the current service. Discussion of the expanded use of the Hospitality Team might incorporate duties of ushers and greeters. The PIE group will be reinstated to visit newcomers after service and deliver literature and a personal welcome. Pastor Denice suggested an information booth manned to provide directions and literature to newcomers. Suggestions also involved change of the coffee hour to occur between services and the possibility of having a coffee cart to facilitate relocating the hospitality table near the message board outside the Fellowship Hall. Small tables and chairs and a canopy could be provided for those who want to remain outside with easy access to the Fellowship Hall for those who prefer to sit indoors. Several logistical issues were addressed, including Ron's presentation of options for a screen in the rear of the sanctuary. Plans for music were presented by Scott. Pastor Denice introduced the Vital Signs book to address the decline in the conference with the Mission: to make disciples for the

transformation of the world; and the Vision: empower servant leadership. Worship Plans were completed through June 15 using the lections. The next meeting will be June 14.

FROM THE PASTOR

LESLIE'S SALT SHAKER: I was intrigued by a colleague's encouragement for all of us to take seriously "holy napping." With technological progress making access a virtual reality 24/7 via fax, modem, email, cell phones, blackberries and the like, we Americans are "on," available or working nearly 24/7! The balance in life evaporates without clear boundaries, without taking time to make self-care a priority. There is, after all, *always*, more to do than there is time in a day.

Jesus reminds us life consists of more than work or worry over how we will secure what we need. And life consists of more than the frenetic pace to "enjoy it all"—plan and "go, go, go" all the time. Stop and smell the flowers is the message Jesus gives us of "consider the lilies of the field... how they neither toil nor spin."

We live with many "shoulds" and "oughts"—messages about how our homes, our yards, our persons "should" appear, "ought" to be together. Success is defined by more and better and greater and bigger. The "good life" is defined by how much we can pack into it.

Jesus defines success by how loving our relationships are, how ethical in our dealings with others we are, if we love our neighbors as ourselves. And there is the key: learning to *love and respect ourselves as precious children of God so we can in turn give the same to others*. Do we connect on a daily basis with God—are we listening for the nudging, guidance and warnings of the Holy Spirit?

So...we started out considering "Holy Napping." As the dog days of summer come on and the mid day heat feels oppressive and your body calls for stillness and quiet—*listen*, and take that break, that nap. The Holy Spirit's work among us is to refresh us so we may be living refreshment for others.