



# GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church February 2009 Ph: 299-4615  
"The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

## QUICK LOOK



Important In-  
formation,  
Page 2

Congregational  
Life,  
Page 4

Thrift Shop  
News,  
Page 4

UMW,  
Page 4

Ministry Spot-  
light,  
Page 5

Youth,  
Page 6

Calendar,  
Page 7

Birthdays,  
Page 8

**ALL CHURCH SUPER BOWL PARTY SUN. FEB. 1:** Everyone is invited to the Umpteenth Annual All Church Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 1. Game Day starts with a tag football game on the church lawn at 2:30 pm. The OTHER game will start around 3:00 pm, and will be on the "Big Screen" in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own beverages, pillows, blankets, chairs, etc., and snacks to share with your fellow fans!

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SOUP FUNDRAISER FEB. 1:** "Souper Bowl of Caring IX" is coming up on Super Bowl Sunday. The Souper Bowl of Caring is a nation-wide youth fundraiser designed to get us thinking about others more than about football. After worship on February 1 at 12:30 p.m., the Holy Club youth group will have a "Super Soup Kitchen" fundraiser, to benefit Poverello House. We will serve soup, bread, and a beverage (price information to follow). If you are unable to stay for lunch but still want to support this worthy cause, Holy Club members will be standing by with soup pots to take your donations. Thank you!

**FEBRUARY HEALING SERVICE:** There will be no Prayer, Communion and Healing Service in February. Services will resume March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. We welcome all who may have personal concerns and are in need of meditation, supplemental prayer or anointing and prayer for friends and family members.

**UMC SCHOAR DR. CAROL NEWSOM GUEST PREACHER FEB. 22:** We welcome Dr. Carol Newsom to our pulpit at both services on Sunday, February 22, 2009. Dr. Newsom will preach on "Job's Questions, Our Questions and God's Answer: Is It Enough?" as she concludes her lecture series on the problem of evil in scripture for the annual Interfaith Scholars Weekend. We will be hosting the religious community in worship this Sunday morning and ask that those who are physically able park in the furthest parking areas to provide parking for our guests. Dr. Newsom is the Charles Howard Candler School of Theology Professor of Old Testament at Emory University in Georgia.

**INTERFAITH SCHOLAR WEEKEND LECTURE SERIES: "IMAGINING GOOD AND EVIL: THE BIBLE DEBATES THREE DIFFERENT MODELS"** is the topic of this year's lecture series, February 20 – 22, 2009. See enclosed brochure for more information and registration. The Friday evening lecture is free, the Saturday lectures include lunch and there is a \$40.00 registration fee. Dr. Newsome will also be in our pulpit Sunday morning, Feb. 22, 2009. MUMC is a sponsoring congregation of this wonderful annual educational opportunity.

**SANCTUARY OPEN FOLLOWING *IMAGINE!* SERVICE AT 10:30 A.M.:** Now that we have a choral director for the Chancel Choir and Scott Hatfield is not having to switch gears in the short space of thirty minutes and move from the *Imagine!* service directly to the Chancel Choir warm up and music run through, the choir can practice in the Lose Library at 10:15 a.m. This means quiet in the sanctuary isn't quite as crucial to the preparation of worship between the services as it was. Although the technicians would appreciate it if we would come in closer to the worship hour so they can reset the mics and test the sound equipment for the next service. However, folks with mobility problems are most welcome to enter any time of arrival.

## *Important Information*

**FEBRUARY IS HEART HEALTH MONTH!** Heart disease continues to be the number one killer of both men and women, so February is the month to emphasize what can be done to improve one's heart health. Since it is the number 1 killer of women (not breast cancer) February 6 has been designated as wear red day to bring awareness to this important health issue. The days of February were all busy with activities, so Saturday March 7 will be not only a training day, but also the Healthy Heart Potluck Luncheon @ 12:30 pm. CPR and Defibrillator training will be from 9-12 in the Social Hall. If you have already signed up mark your calendar! If you are interested in joining us, please call Lucy or the church office (numbers below). We are hoping to train 20 people how to use the defibrillator. Plan to come home from the Potluck with prizes. This year we are also having a special speaker – an Interventional Cardiologist. Bring your questions for an informative session on heart health awareness. As previously, the Heart Healthy cookbook will be in the office if you need to research a recipe. If you have any questions, please call Lucy or the church office at 299-4615. Good Health! Lucy Elgin MSN, NP.

**WELCOME HARRIET ALOOJIAN—AND WHERE IS SCOTT?** This month we are delighted to welcome musician Harriet Aloojian as our new Chancel Choir director. Harriet is well known to many of us as she has served on an interim basis in the past when we've been between choral directors. Harriet joins our 11:00 music worship team under the direction of our Music Director, Scott Hatfield. Harriet is a vocal teacher and has students past and present in this congregation. She looks forward to offering more ensemble presentations with members of the choir as well as full choir presentations. With the addition of the early *Imagine!* service responsibilities which have added an additional three to four hours a week of rehearsal time with the band, not to mention preparation and wor-

ship time to his responsibilities with the Chancel Choir and Praise Team, Scott has been stretched far too thin. Harriet will direct the choir three Sundays a month and Scott will direct the Praise Team for communion Sundays at 11:00 a.m. each month and play the Clavinova at 11:00 a.m. We are excited by the expansion of our music ministry this need presents to us. Please take a minute to welcome Harriet.

### **WHERE DO I GO WHEN I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT ANY THING AFFECTING OUR CHURCH?**

We longtime Methodists are used to many different names of units that cover administrative and policy decisions of the church: i.e. Church Council, Administrative Board, Official Board, Trustees, yes there are likely many more that cover this situation. Therefore the question becomes: "What is the current administrative structure of Memorial United Methodist Church?" The answer is The Administrative Support Team which meets the 4th Tuesday of every month at 4:30PM. The team is composed of: A chairperson (currently John Erb), Endowment chair, Financial officer, Building use coordinator, Lay leader, and representatives from Staff Parish Relations, Facilities Maintenance, Finance Team, Among Leadership and all elected Trustees.

The purpose of the Administrative Support Team: "To make policy decisions related to the different finance and facilities teams when needed as well as be the official administrative agent of the Charge Conference between meetings of the Charge Conference. This Team also deals with any Disciplinary mandates relating to finances, facilities or personnel as required. The Trustees of the corporation serve on the Administrative Support Team. The Team also relates to any new or existing ministries around policies for use of the facilities or budget needs. The Staff Parish Relations Committee relates to the Administrative Support Team. So what does all this mean? If you, as an interested person of this congregation have a question regarding some action

affecting The Church, you have every right and are encouraged to attend the next Administrative Support Team meeting and have that item entered into the agenda.

So why all this complicated explanation? This is an effort to curb "rumors" that have a way of becoming "fact", before anyone on The Team has had a chance to address the issue. Instead of playing the children's game of passing on a story, let us get to the bottom of the issue before it becomes a "fact". If anyone has any questions regarding this procedure, please give me a call and we can discuss the issue further. One note of exception is that if your question concerns a church employee, that request MUST go to the Staff Parish Relations Committee.

-Thank you, John Erb

#### **FELLOWSHIP TIME NEEDS A NEW HOSPITALITY TEAM/LEADER:**

We bid Sue DeFranco farewell after many dedicated years of preparing one of the most gracious and appealing coffee hours a church can provide each and every Sunday. Sue retired from this responsibility Sunday, January 11, 2009. Please express your appreciation. If you feel called to making real what we say in worship through this ministry of hospitality, please speak with Equipping Team Leader Rick Hutchinson or Pastor Denice Leslie. Mentoring and training provided. A team for setting up between the services and one to clean up following the late service has been suggested. It has also been requested that the set up team hold back some of the eats for the 10:40 a.m. arrival of 11:00 a.m. worshipers as well as for those who participate in worship ministries who come over following the late service.

#### **TWO PEWS IN CENTER BACK REMOVED TO MAKE SPACE:**

Some months ago the Worship Plan Team received approval from the Administrative Support Team to remove two of the center back pews, one on either side of the center aisle for the purpose of providing much needed space for the Sound and Projection equipment and tech-

nicians on the left hand side and wheel chair and soft seating on the right hand side. Folks who have difficulty sitting in the pews due to the need for padding bottom or back, or rising from a sitting position off the pews or who have walkers or other mobility assistance equipment now have alternative seating. The two pews removed are positioned along the north and south walls. To prevent the possibility of injury, please do not sit on these two pews until the signs are removed as they may tip forward and are very, very heavy! Efforts to stabilize the pews are in the works.

#### **SPIRITUAL LEADERS CIRCLE BEGINS MINISTRY CONVERSATIONS WITH LEADERS OF TEAMS AND GROUPS:**

This month the Spiritual Leaders begin holding conversations with the leaders of ministry and mission teams and other groups for the purpose of aligning our overall ministry with our vision, mission and core values and to help us ground our work in the example of Jesus and in scripture. Spiritual Leaders will hold these conversations with all existing groups throughout 2009. The Spiritual Leaders continue to initiate Prayer Cells and seek God's presence and guidance in their role of directing and deepening our spiritual development. The Circle welcomes Jim Acton and Leonard Babcock, new Spiritual Leaders in the class of 2011.

#### **LABORERS NEEDED FOR THE VINEYARD: MNISTRY OPPORTUNITIES-ANSWER YOUR CALL:**

With Wayne Golden stepping down as sound operator for the 11 a.m. service we will no longer have an operator (or amplified sound) as of Sunday, February 1 when our interim operator, Bucky Babcock steps down. Bucky plays drums in the 9:30 a.m. *Imagine!* service and has graciously stepped in to substitute until the end of the month to give us time to recruit a new operator. Please speak with Ron Zastovnik, Rick Hutchinson, Sara Glazebrook or the pastor if you are interested in this ministry. Thank you.

## Congregational Life

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

**THRIFT SHOP NEWS:** We ended 2008 with a bang. But we started the New Year with a gentle sigh. Our receipts for January were \$750. This was due to several things. The weather was really cold. We had sold out of most everything in December. It was a busy month for everyone and the donations just didn't come in. We had a lot of our usual customers but there wasn't much to choose from. So we promised then that February would see us at our best again and we are already seeing that. So thanks again and keep those donations coming. We need everything; take a look around and get rid of that stuff you have been planning to clear out for so long.

Last month I told you our donation for 2008 would be more than the \$2500 we had donated last year. What I should have said was the \$10,000 (2500 each quarter) we donated last year. I now do have the total donated and it is \$11,750. The yard sale added another \$1,075. Thanks to Gloria McClanahan for organizing that and all the work she put into it. Anyway, we are looking forward to another great year and we know we have the support of our church family so we'll do it again!

Once again, thanks to all our volunteers for all the hard work they put in during the past year. They are faithful and we are grateful. And thanks to you for all you do for us in donations. Blessings.

-submitted by Pat Frey

### **UMW NEWS:**

- February 2: Board meeting at 9am in the Library
- February 11: Red Birds meet at 9:30 am in the Library
- February 17: Regular meeting at 10 am in the Social Hall. Program: Evelyn Haulman "Women's Rights" Executive Board Hosts – please bring your own service – ALL women are invited.

- February 25: Wesley Circle meets at 1pm in the Social Hall.

**ATTENTION ALL CHURCH WOMEN:** The women's retreat this year will be held at the Evergreen Conference Center in Oakhurst (ECCO) on March 13-14-15. Our leader is Mariellen Yoshino the District Superintendent! It is a great time for fellowship, re-energizing and meditation. Please consider coming. The registration forms are in the office along with Scholarship forms. For more information, call Barbara Nielsen or Dee Carr.

**SPECIAL FRIENDS:** January 8<sup>th</sup>, ten members of the Special Friends Group met in the Lose Library and thought about the church's mission statement as we read it together. Each group is to develop a mission statement to take before the Leader Network. Pastor Denice spoke briefly about this and gave each member a copy of some guidance to think about so we can work on our statement next month. The opening prayer set the tone of the meeting, seeking the light of the Christ child so we may carry that light into our community of Special Friends. The Scripture reading was from Isaiah 60:1-3. We joined in singing, I Am the Light of the World, by Jim Strathdee, followed by A Litany, Shine Through Me, Lord, by Cheryl Lyon, found on page 49 of Alive Now. Briefly we shared personal ways God has been shining in our lives. We were saddened to report the deaths of Novelle Rogers and Vi Hooper. Memorial Services for them were in January at the church. In our report on Special Friends, we recorded 39 visits, 81 cards sent, and 51 phone calls. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 3:30 pm. As you go through your Christmas cards, think about the persons who sent them, and remember them in prayer. Prayer helps keep us faithful as we learn to obey God.

-Blessings, Lorraine May

**THANK YOU:** I wish to thank my church family for all the prayers, cards and food. It is a true bless-

ing to be a part of such a wonderful group. The food was excellent and I so appreciate you.

Pat Frey

**MY CHURCH FAMILY:** Each day that I get up I give thanks for each of you. During my recent surgery and rehabilitation things would have been so much more difficult without you. I am especially grateful to Lorraine May and Pastor Denice for their calls, visits and care. To those of you that called, came by, sent cards or brought food to me, you really kept me in touch with my desire to improve and get back to being myself. Thank you for being that total caring family.

-Blessings to all, Dee Carr.

**DEAR CHURCH FAMILY:** The beautiful Christmas greetings I received from so many of you were treasured, and I feel the warmth of your love and caring. May 2009 be rich with God's blessings for each of us as we reach out to share them.

-Pauline Middleton

**BOUTIQUE NEWS:** Thanks you everyone who worked so hard to make the 2008 event a great success! After expenses we cleared \$5442.73. We were able to fulfill our obligation of \$2500 to our missionary, Carol Partridge in Macedonia and give \$3000 toward the church apportionments: \$1000 to UMCOR, \$1000 to the Arkansas Relief Fund through World Service, and \$1000 to the Ministerial Education Fund to help with scholarship money for students. We are already preparing for next year. If any of you are 'crafty', come join us Wednesday mornings at 9am in the Social Hall. Remember we do take donations as well. Thank you all again and God Bless you in this new year.

**UMM BREAKFAST February 7, 2009:** The United Methodist men will meet for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 8am on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Jon Alfaro has offered to cook so bring a good appetite. Several ideas for changes in format were brought up in the December meeting and briefly discussed in the

January meeting. The discussions also addressed other ministries both in church and as outreach to the community. Rick Hutchinson will be facilitating the discussion that hopefully will give us a clearer operational plan for the coming year. Call Max if you have any question or would like to offer any ideas before we meet in February and bring a friend.

**THANK YOU CARE CLUSTER CALLERS!** There are 16 people in our congregation who service all of us by intentionally connecting us to what is happening in the church. They find out how we're doing and if we need prayer support. In other words, they are caring for us. Thank you and God bless you Andy Hansen-Smith, Cecelia Acton, Judy Gross, Dee Carr, Margie Cox, Lucy Gadberry, Julie Film, Mary Vollman, Shirley Loakes, Lorraine May, Barbara Nielsen, Shirley Golden, Max Cannon, Rekha Dayalu, Carol Febuary and Ozzie Hernandez for showing and telling Jesus' love.

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

**EQUIPPING MINISTRIES:** Starting in February our equipper, Sara Glazebrook, will be contacting a few people every week via postal mail to invite them to meet with her to discuss their passions or frustrations in ministry. She will also follow up with a phone call about a week later, to see if you are interested in meeting with her. We are excited about equipping people to be in the ministry of their calling! We will talk with you soon!

**FOUR BASIC MINISTRY TEAMS PROVIDE BACKBONE OF DISCIPLING AT MUMC:** The following four basic team provide a system for fulfilling our vision of *Empowering Servant Leadership*, and aligning our ministries with our mission of *Showing and Telling Jesus' Love Everywhere*. These Basic Ministry System Teams are:

-The Administrative Support Team: responsible for finance and facilities policies and procedures. The AST has a cluster of work teams that relate to it: Facilities Maintenance, Staff Parish Relations, Finance Work Team, Fundraising, Renovation, Counters, Office Finance Team, Prayer Gardens, Memorials and Gifts, Endowment. It meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. in the Lose Library. The AST includes the Trustees who are the legal officers of the corporation.

-Leader Network: The Leader Network is a quarterly meeting on a Sunday after the second worship hour in the Lose Library and is composed of all the team leaders of every ministry and mission group in the congregation. It meets for support, connecting new comers to mission and ministry, calendaring and coordinating and delegating the planning of church wide activities. It also acts as a two-way communication vehicle between teams and leadership on issues affecting the whole body of the church. There are currently over forty different ministries at MUMC.

-Spiritual Leaders: The Spiritual Leaders Circle meets monthly after the late service on the first Sunday of the month in the Lose Library. The Spiritual Leaders provide spiritual direction for the congregation. They provide direction for the course of our ministry via a Horizon Line report to Charge Conference annually. They support existing ministries and as keepers of the vision, mission and core values are responsible for aligning new ministries with our vision, mission and core values as we seek God's will and guidance in all of our endeavors. They are responsible for leader's growth in discipleship as well as for assessing the health and vitality of the congregation and making recommendations.

-The Equipping Team is responsible for equipping lay leadership through the matching of individual gifts and call to ministry. It also manages the five stage Spirit Quest Discipleship process of classes designed to mature disciples and provide a Ministry Gifts Discovery Process. It annually fills vacan-

cies for those offices required by the Discipline and prepares the Lay Leadership Report.

## YOUTH NEWS

### YOUTH CALENDAR:

- ★ Sunday 02/01/09 12:30 p.m. Super Soup Kitchen Fundraiser 2:30 p.m. Super Bowl Party, Fellowship Hall
- ★ Sunday 02/08/09 5:30 p.m. Holy Club Youth Group, Bungalow
- ★ Sunday 02/15/09 5:30 p.m. Holy Club Youth Group, Bungalow
- ★ Sunday 02/22/09 5:30 p.m. Holy Club Youth Group, Bungalow
- ★ Saturday 02/28/09 8:00 a.m. 30-Hour Famine Youth Event

**30-HOUR FAMINE FEB. 27-28:** This month, our youth will participate in the 30-Hour Famine to raise funds to benefit UMCOR, over the weekend of Feb. 27-28. The 30-Hour Famine is a nationwide "hunger-a-thon" event, during which we go for thirty hours without food, to gain an understanding of what it feels like to be hungry. We will begin our fast Friday night, and meet at the church at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, to spend the day together in study, service projects, and fellowship. We will end the day with a concert and worship time with our friends from Sanger UMC. After a sleepover at the church Saturday night, we will break our fast together Sunday morning before church. Money is generated from fund raisers held during February and that weekend, and will be donated to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), to help fight hunger on a global scale. Permission slips and informational flyers will be available on the table in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Youth Director Connie Alfaro, [connie@clovismumc.org](mailto:connie@clovismumc.org).





## February Birthdays!!

Mai See Yang 02/01  
Khan Yang 02/01  
Gene McGaughy 02/02  
Jake Stoddard 02/02  
Pat Long 02/04  
Helen McGaughy 02/04  
Vonnie Erb 02/06  
Anthony Lee 02/06  
Lew Pond 02/07  
Ntxong yaj Tongleng 02/07  
Lucy Elgin 02/09  
Julie Film 02/09  
Richie Bonzo 02/11  
Shirley Golden 02/12  
Tim Holzmer 02/15  
Chong Ge Vue Yang 02/15  
Phanida Vang 02/16  
Ron Zastovnik 02/16  
Jennifer Lee 02/19  
Doris Osback-Rose 02/19  
Maira Leslie 02/20  
Patty Lee 02/21  
Howard Nelson 02/22  
Ian Leslie 02/23  
Heidi Markland 02/25  
William Pregno 02/26  
John Tallmadge 02/26  
Orene Eckert 02/27  
Linda Lee 02/27  
Susan Lee 02/28