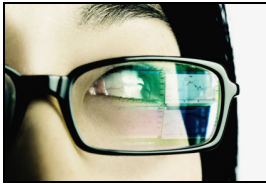




GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church July 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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COMBINED SERVICE JULY 4: The 4th of July will be Janette's first service with us. We will have ONE COMBINED SERVICE AT 10:30 am.

DIRECTORY PICTURE SIGNUPS: We will be taking photos August 13 & 14 for our new pictorial directory with LifeTouch photography! There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex – please select a day and time that you can come to have your picture taken. For more information, see the colorful insert included in this edition of the Good News.

"MOVIN' ON UP" YOUTH PARTY SATURDAY JULY 10: It's that time of year again when we all change grades and move on to bigger and better things! What better way to celebrate than with a BBQ/Swim party? All of you who will be 7th-12th graders next year are welcome to join us at 4pm at the Williams' house for yummy food and splashy fun! Directions to follow.

"THANK YOU CONNIE" PARTY: We want to thank Connie for all the years she has put in as youth director here at MUMC. We will have a party for her on August 14, so during the month of July we'd love to collect memories of Connie's time with the youth. If you were ever in the group when Connie was and you have a story or a picture or a memory, or just want to write her a note to say "thanks", please turn them into the church office by Sunday August 1.

MEETING PASTOR JANETTE: Many of you are anxious to meet the new pastor and there will be many opportunities in the first few weeks after she arrives. Shortly after Pastor Janette arrives, we will set up some small group meetings to get to know each other better but we will wait until after she arrives and gets settled for a few days before we set up those times and dates.

Congregational Life

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

DEAR MEMBERS OF MEMORIAL UMC: Over the years, one or all of us has talked with many of you, thru or regarding Betty. We know you became her only family in the Fresno area. It always gave us comfort to know that she had you, and you cared very much for her. It was a very sad and frustrating time for us when we got the call that she was in the hospital and would be leaving this life in a matter of a few short hours. We knew none of us could be with her in her final hours. Knowing some of you spent that time with her has helped make our loss more bearable. Upon her passing, we truly wanted her remembered with joy and happiness. Once again, as her Fresno family, you stepped up to the plate and gave her a wonderful memorial service. To repeat ourselves, you did what none of us could do for her. This could not have been more confirmed than in listening to the CD you sent to us of her memorial service. You will always have our appreciation and gratitude for who you are and what you have done not only for Betty, but for us. Thank you and God Bless you.

Very Sincerely, Betty Skidmore's Family: Katie Blockston, Joy Lambert, Della Dallas.

NEWSPAPER RECYCLING: It has been some time since I last addressed the issue of newspaper recycling and there are a couple of areas that need to be clarified. The first has to do with safety. All items that are brought in, regardless of how they are packaged, are repackaged so they can be safely stacked. Items that need to be brought in separately are the magazines received through the mail and phone books. Those should be separated. However, all printed material that is included in the newspaper can be left with the newspaper. Don't remove the advertisements and package them separately. The other item is; leave the newspapers flat. Do not attempt to fold them and then stack them in the bag or stuff them into the bag. I have to then take them out one at a time and smooth them out before I can

reinsert them in the bag and safely stack them. To be candid, often when the newspapers are brought in this way, it requires so much unnecessary time that I generally take them home and run them through my home recycle service. For the most part, these are in the minority with most bringing the newspapers in neatly packaged.

BRIGHT IDEA BOX: If you have any suggestions or concerns, please feel free to leave a note for the Administrative Support Team in the Bright Idea's Box in the Narthex. We appreciate your input!

TEAMS AND MINISTRIES CORNER

THRIFT SHOP NEWS JUNE 2010: Wow! When we plead you really come through! Thank you to all who showed up at our door on the first Tuesday we worked after having been open in May. Though, we were a bit overwhelmed, we surely are NOT complaining. We need it and we are so grateful to you. We came in a bit under our goal again but only by \$10. The year is already half gone (and where did it go?) so we are praying that we will be able to match the yearly donation for last year. Again thanks to all our volunteers who come in so faithfully to sort, mark and place all those donations. If you see one of them (Gloria McClanahan, Sharee Woxell, Janet Bonzo, Nancy Heberlien, Jodie Booze or Margie Magargee) please give them a big thank you! It wouldn't work without them. Again, thanks for making our job possible.

-Submitted by Pat Frey

UMM Breakfast for July: Because of the 4th of July holiday, the UMM Breakfast for July 3rd has been cancelled. Our next meeting will be August 7th.

SPECIAL FRIENDS: Special Friends met June 10th with the MUMC mission statement, followed by a prayer. Scripture was Colossians 3:16, a hymn 'Take Time to be Holy' and the meditation was taken from the May-June Upper Room, re-

minding us to “Linger Longer” with our Bible Readings. God had been working in wonderful ways in our lives this past month. We had a follow up review of the pink card to be filed at church and the other cards recommended by the Parish Nurses to be placed on our refrigerator for immediate information in the event of an emergency. Additions were made to our Special Friends list as reports were given. There were 45 visits, 23 cards/notes sent, and 37 phone visits last month. Our next meeting is scheduled for July 8th at 3:30 pm. Closing thought: “Lingering in God’s presence is a feast of love.” Blessings, Lorraine May

YOUTH CALENDAR

- ☞ **SUNDAY 07/04/10**
- ☞ **NO YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT- HAPPY 4TH!**
- ☞ **SATURDAY 07/11/10**
- ☞ **4:00 P.M. 'MOVIN ON UP' SWIM PARTY AT THE WILLIAMS' HOUSE**
- ☞ **SUNDAY 07/18/10**
- ☞ **5:00 P.M. HOLY CLUB MOVIE NITE**
- ☞ **5:00 P.M. PTO**
- ☞ **SATURDAY 07/24/10**
- ☞ **8:00 A.M. POVERELLO HOUSE WORK DAY**
- ☞ **SUNDAY 07/25/10**
- ☞ **5:30 P.M. HOLY CLUB MEETING, BUNGALOW**

FROM THE PASTOR

LESLIE'S SALT SHAKER

Dear Hearts and Gentle People: Thank you! Thank you for your kindness, your care, your love, your many gifts for my new home, the wonderful farewell Sunday worship and dinner, the Margaret Hudson St. Francis which I just love! The cross stitch made by Sue, the scrap book made by Barbara and Roger Grams, and the beautiful pang daou Hmong stitching are treasures I will keep in my living room in Hughson. Every time I pull open a cupboard, open a drawer or closet or sit on John Tallmadge’s sofa I will be surrounded by memories of all of you. The Costco gift card from Fresno Korean UMC is a very thoughtful choice I know I will appreciate spending

when the time comes. But there is a greater gift you’ve given me above all else—and that is the treasure of having served as your pastor for these past thirteen years. Each and every one of you is a gift. And together you have been a tireless, committed, stand-together, fun and joyful church through thick and thin. Go with God! - Denice Dluabci Leslie

COACHES CORNER

In this last message as your coach I want to give you the results of the Natural Church Development Survey measuring the strength of the eight characteristics of healthy churches. This is our third survey. Our overall average score is 56 on a scale of 0 – 80. The scores for each of the eight characteristics are as follows:

- Empowering Leadership - 53
- Gift Based Ministry - 73 (our maximum)
- Passionate Spirituality - 47 (our minimum)
- Inspiring Worship - 63 (our last time minimum—real improvement!)
- Effective Structures - 53
- Holistic Small Groups - 55
- Need-Oriented Evangelism - 51 (take note!)
- Loving Relationships - 53

The results of this survey confirm the results of the Vital Signs inventory assessment which categorizes us as “dystrophic” meaning very active, very broad, but not very deep in our spiritual life—We need to work on ways in which we are aligned with and connected to God in our actions not only as leaders but as every day disciples who act first out of the core values of our faith, permitting these to govern our lives and decisions.

This survey was taken by our most committed, active and involved leaders. It is up to leadership to show the way and take the time needed to grow their own faith and provide spiritual direction to the rest of the congregation. With your new pastor I am positive you will do just that! Blessings on you all in your new endeavors. Spiritual Leaders will be examining the full report and making decisions on ways in which we can act to deepen our spirituality so that it is our passion for Christ that drives us. Signing off, Pastor Denice Leslie