

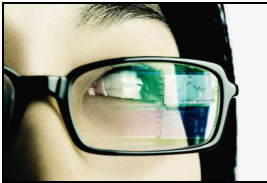


GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Clovis Memorial United Methodist Church October 2010 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



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WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OCT 3: Please join us to celebrate with a combined service at 10:30 am followed by an international potluck at noon. Please bring your favorite cultural cuisine. It can be anything that you like to eat and want to share!

THE NETWORK will meet after the 11am service on Sunday, October 24 in the Fellowship Hall for soup lunch and discussion of ministry items. Network is the ministry planning and communication team of the church and everyone is welcome to participate. If you have an agenda item or a report, please contact Sharon Hutchinson by Sunday, Oct. 17. You will have time to eat lunch and leave for the CROP Walk! If you are planning on attending, please let the church office know by noon on Friday, October 22 either by email memumc@mem-umc.org or by calling 299-4615.

CROP WALK – OCTOBER 24TH - Get out your walking shoes, Team Memorial. It's time for the Fresno/Clovis CROP Community Walk for Hunger. This year's Walk will begin and end at Temple Beth Israel, 6622 N. Maroa, on October 24th at 2:30 and walkers may choose to walk a 1.5 or a 3 mile route. Our church has been actively participating in this interfaith event for over 25 years and we hosted it last year. Walking with other faith communities and groups, our local walk raised nearly \$30,000 last year to assist global hunger agencies and our own Community Food Bank reach out to the hungry of our world and our valley. Each step we take on that day raises public awareness about the tragedy of hunger. If you are interested in walking or sponsoring a walker, please see Sue DeFranco for additional information. You may also register for the Walk or donate to one of our walkers online by accessing www.cropwalkonline.org. Click on California, then the Fresno-Clovis Walk link and follow the instructions to find our team for Memorial United Methodist Church. This site will also give you additional information about the event, the sponsoring organization, Church World Service, and the Community Food Bank. If you can't walk or sponsor, we would ask that you keep the Walk and its participants in your prayers.

THIS YEAR HALLOWEEN FALLS ON SUNDAY! EVERYONE is invited to wear costumes to worship! As one modern child described it: "Halloween is a celebration of creativity." Let's enjoy and give thanks to God for our ability to be creative as we have fun making and wearing costumes.

MEET AND GREET: If you have not had an opportunity to attend a "Meet and Greet" with Pastor Janette, there are more opportunities coming up this month! Please take time to sign up and then attend these fun and important meetings. The dates available in October are: Tuesday the 5th at 6:30pm, Tuesday the 12th at 6:30pm, Wednesday the 13th at noon, Sunday the 17th at 4pm, Sunday the 24th at 4pm and Wednesday the 27th at noon.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: So far the response to our directory project has been fantastic, but we need **everyone** to have their picture taken. There are 2 more days scheduled in November - Fri and Sat the 5th and 6th. If you haven't signed up yet, give the office a call to schedule your picture: 299-4615.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE CORNER

FROM THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE: *As United Methodists we are "connectional." This means that we are bound to all other United Methodists and work intentionally together to spread the Gospel message and build God's Holy Realm.*

The primary way we relate to each other is through the Annual Conference. These two words used to describe an event to which the early Methodist circuit riders would travel each year. As the Methodist movement grew and expanded to become a denomination it became impractical for all the circuit riders to report to the same place for the annual meeting. Circuits were assigned to an Annual Conference. Over time, these words became used to describe a geographic region, more than a meeting.

In our time we distinguish between the geographic region and the yearly meeting by calling the former the Annual Conference and the later the Annual Conference Session (ACS). Each year all clergy with lay people from every congregation gather to conduct the business of our region, as well as to worship, inform and inspire each other.

This year Loraine May and Eddie Dyer attended the Annual Conference Session, along with Pastor Janette and Pastor Wang Pao. In the months to come you will be able to read in our monthly newsletter a little about what goes on at ACS, as reported by Loraine and Eddie. By sharing a little with you each month we hope that you will come to understand a great deal about this important yearly event: what happens and how that impacts our lives.

Congregational Life

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

DID YOU KNOW? Pauline Middleton will be honored for her many years of working with youth at the Opening Day ceremonies of the Fresno County Fair! La Donna Snow will be honored by the Marjorie Mason

Foundation as one of the area's Top 10 Businesswomen of 2010 at their gala event on October 21!

CHURCH PANTRY: For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in. Matthew 25:35 NASB. Thanks to all who brought cans of food or other non perishables last month to make the church pantry full again! Let us



remember to bring a can of food or non perishable items on the first Sunday of the month to keep our church pantry well stocked. With the hot, summer days almost behind us, there will be a

need for warmer foods such as hot cereals, soups and canned or packaged beans. The pantry could also use some crackers as well. Last week we gave out 10 bags of groceries to families in need and 3 bags to homeless people. Those who receive these bags of food are truly grateful. - submitted by Janet L Bonzo

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE A SUCCESS! Thank you for your donations to our school supply drive that took place in August. We were able to provide backpacks equipped with a nice assortment of supplies to fifteen students at Sierra Vista Elementary School, right down the block from our church. What a nice way to start a new school year!

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY: We would love to offer transportation to and from church services/events for those who no longer drive. If you are willing to be a part of this ministry, please sign up in the Narthex or call/email the church office

(memumc@mem-umc.org, 299-4615). If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call/e-mail either!

TEAMS AND MINISTRIES CORNER

UMW NEWS:

Our Clovis UMW toured the Clovis Botanical Garden in April and donated



\$300 to the garden. In recognition, a portion of granite tile with our name on it is now on display near the flagpole in the

Garden. Thank you to the UMW for their contribution to the Clovis community. - Evelyn Haulman, UMW member and Garden Greeter

October 2010 Calendar:

UMW NEWS: October 2010

- Oct 13: Red Bird Circle meets at 9:30 in the Lose Library

- Oct 19: Regular meeting at 10 am in the Social Hall. Program: Judy Gross and Dorothy Heskett "Pledge Day" Lunch Hosts: Ex Board. Please bring your own service. ALL women are welcome!

- Oct 23: Cal/Nev 'UMW Celebration' conference lunch at Los Altos UMC: 655 Magdalena Ave 94024. Registration is \$15 and includes lunch. Deadline to sign up is Oct. 1, 2010. On the day of the event, registration starts at 8:00 am and the program begins at 9. We may carpool from the church. For more information, call Dee Carr.

SPECIAL FRIENDS: Mother Teresa commented that she viewed her work as a prayer "with Jesus, for Jesus, to Jesus" and that "the dying, the cripple, the mental, the unwanted, the unloved - they are Jesus in disguise" Do you see Jesus in someone when you offer a kindness or a service to him or her? The Special Friends group thought about that when 20 visits 64 phone visits, 32 cards, and 3 letters were made this past month. When we see Jesus in others and react to them and care for them as we would if they were Jesus, we unwittingly open the possibility that they see Jesus in us and experience Jesus through the work that we do. That's a humbling thought! That's the alternate fulfillment of the command give to "love your neighbor as yourself." Can you try that? Can YOU see Jesus in others? Blessings, Lorraine May

THRIFT SHOP NEWS SEPTEMBER

2010: I can't believe another month has gone by, but sure enough it has and we were open for September on the 3rd and 4th. And, yes, it was Labor Day weekend. Not a real good move this time because I think half of the people of Clovis and Fresno went away for the last hurrah of the summer on Saturday. Friday, though not our usual Friday, wasn't so bad. We



took in \$656. But Saturday? Oh, well! Our total receipts for the week end was \$878. Quite a shortfall for our goal of \$1000. Guess we'll have to pray really hard for the next three months. Thanks to all for all the hard work and support. And thanks to all who contributed. Please remember we would like only clean, gently used things and if it's electric, it has to work. I know some of you have heard that I will be relocating to San Luis Obispo to be with my daughter and her family That's not a rumor.. My home is up for sale and in all probability will sell. My plans are to do the boutique luncheon and finish out the year at the Thrift shop unless unforeseen circumstances prevent me from doing that. Someone who has time on their hands and the energy to do it, should seriously search their heart and come forward to take on this very important ministry It is the major fund raiser for the church and as long as I've done it, every cent after taxes are paid goes to pay apportionments. So please pray about it. Blessings to you.

-Submitted by Pat Frey

BOUTIQUE NEWS: First thing; thanks to all church members who discovered my error in last month's Good News. The Holiday Boutique is quickly approaching and members of the Boutique Group are still very busy finishing up handmade items for our event. The date for our luncheon and boutique is Friday, Novem-

ber 12th and Saturday, November 13th. In October please watch for our mailing with details and drawing tickets. We also will have a display in the Narthex later in October which will preview some sale items and the prizes for our drawing. Sharee Woxell has volunteered to handle our Country Store table again this year and she will be calling members for donations. If you have an item to donate for our boutique; you can contact Carole Schweitzer or Lynn Golden.



OCTOBER UMM

BREAKFAST: The UMM Breakfast will be on October 2nd at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Jon will be treating us to one of his famous Mexican

breakfasts. There will also be a special presentation by Pastor Janette on her vision of the role of the United Methodist Men in the life of the church. You don't have to be a member to attend so bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship. Be sure and notify Max of any additional guests.

HOLY CLUB YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH CALENDAR AND NEWS

- ☞ **SUNDAY OCTOBER 3 AT 6 PM: HOLY CLUB YOUTH GROUP - MOVIE NIGHT (COME EARLY AT 5:15 FOR MUSIC PRACTICE!)**
- ☞ **SATURDAY OCTOBER 9 AT 9AM: BUNGALOW WORKDAY (PIZZA FOR LUNCH!)**

- ☞ SUNDAY OCTOBER 10 AT 6:00 PM: HOLY CLUB YOUTH GROUP - FAITH ZOMBIE SURVIVAL GUIDE PART 1
- ☞ SUNDAY OCTOBER 17 AT 6:00 PM: HOLY CLUB YOUTH GROUP - FAITH ZOMBIE SURVIVAL GUIDE PART 2
- ☞ SUNDAY OCTOBER 24 AT 2:00 PM: CROP WALK (NO HOLY CLUB TONIGHT!)
- ☞ SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 AT 8:00 AM: POVERELLO HOUSE WORKDAY
- ☞ SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 AT 5:00 PM: HALLOWEEN LOCKIN
- ☞ SUNDAY OCTOBER 31: NO HOLY CLUB TONIGHT!

YOUTH MUSIC TEAM: IF YOU LIKE MUSIC AND WANT TO SING OR PLAY AN INSTRUMENT IN A YOUTH WORSHIP TEAM, COME TO THE BUNGALOW AT 5:15 ON SUNDAY NIGHTS. WE'LL START SUNDAY OCTOBER 3. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



FROM THE PASTOR

The great commandment: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

These words are so important and challenge us daily. We are to love God with the fullness of who we are: mental, emotional, physical and spiritual beings.

BUT - many times we separate loving God with all that we are from loving God with all that we have. (Reread that sentence to make sure you got it!)

A story is told that long ago when the crusades were passing through the area we now call the Middle East, there were tribes that consented to be baptized, but as they were immersed in the water of their

baptism they would hold up their left arm above the water - the one that holds the bow in battle. This symbolism is - they accepted Christ at many levels, but wanted to hold on to the old ways "just in case."

One of my professors in seminary joked that for many modern Christians, we become baptized, except for lifting our wallets above the waters. We are challenged to love God and Christ Jesus with all that we are, but stop short of loving God with all that we have, "just in case."

In the scriptures on Sunday we have heard many stories about stewards. For Christians, being a good steward is recognizing that ALL we are and ALL we have is a gift from God to be managed in such a way that it helps to spread the Gospel message and expand God's Holy Realm. Stewardship is a lifestyle of managing our time, talent and treasure to extend God's Holy Realm.

I encourage you to take time in the coming month to really look at your life - ALL that you are (not just your strengths and triumphs) and ALL that you have - yes ALL that you have. What are you willing to let God use? Are there things that are currently "off limits?" Lift in prayer and make confession to God any reluctance or withholding.

Remember, God loves you and wants for you health and wholeness. And God's power, working through us - ALL that we are and ALL that we have - can change the world!

Thanks be to God. -js