

# The First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

# Cast~A~Net

## JULY 2008

*"The kingdom of God is like a net that was cast into the sea" ~ Matthew 13:47*

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## FOND FAREWELL WITH WELL WISHES

It is with a tear and a smile that we recognize Reverend Bob Underwood's retirement. After his years of faithful, devoted service to this and other California churches, a new chapter in Pastor Bob's life is unfolding.

Pastor Bob has accomplished so much during his tenure with us. He came to us from the Ojai United Methodist Church just eight years ago and has made some wonderful improvements on our grounds and church as a whole. Besides the beautiful work with the landscaping and the magnificent porticos, he and members of our congregation remodeled both bathrooms in our Narthex, was instrumental in the construction of the lovely lighted church sign on Halcyon Road. Pastor Bob also maintained an unflagging determination to begin our own preschool. We are grateful to him for his hard work and perseverance in these endeavors as our pastor and our friend.

There is much ahead of him to look forward to as he pursues his passion for tennis and travel. He is eager to take early morning walks with Sandy and help his two daughters in southern California, go to see plays, concerts and ball games. Pastor Bob already has a list of building projects – how will he ever manage it all? We wish him Godspeed on his new path for the future and thank him for the honor of being part of his past.

"We love you for all you have given to us over the years...your gentle guiding hand as our pastor coupled with the warm, loving embrace of a genuine friend. **We will miss you Bob!!!**"



# In this issue...

## COVER STORY:

Welcome and farewell...

- Pastor's Notes.....2
- Healthy Corner.....3
- UMW News.....4
- Vine Club.....5
- Jerry Smith.....6
- 2009: A Year To Celebrate.....7
- ELT / Car Wash Update.....8
- UM Youth News.....9
- Church Council .....10
- Kids Page and Thank yous...11
- 5 Cities Christian Women.....12
- Trustees Report.....13
- Miscellaneous.....14
- Mission Corner.....15
- Choir/ Praise Team news.....16
- UMM News.....17
- Bible Quiz & Misc.....18
- Birthdays/Malachi Mouse.....19
- At A Glance / Coffee Hour...20

## Rev. David Burgeson



# PASTOR'S NOTES

As I was reflecting and praying on what I want to say here, it came to me to share some things you might like to know about your new Pastor, like how I decided to be a Pastor.

One night in 1989, I sensed God calling me to leave banking and become a Pastor. I had not finished my college, so before I could enter seminary I completed my Bachelor's in Business through the University of Redlands at night in May of 1990.

I did my seminary education through Fuller Seminary in Pasadena. I graduated in 1995.

Yet my on the job training for a Pastor in the local church began in July 1991, when I was appointed a Pastoral Intern at Simi Valley United Methodist Church. From 1992-1997 I was a Local Pastor at Simi Valley.

June of 1997, I was ordained a Deacon and Probationary member of California Pacific Annual Conference. On July 1<sup>st</sup> 1997, was my first appointment as an Associate Pastor, still serving Simi Valley UMC.

July 1, 2000 I was appointed as Senior Pastor of Ojai United Methodist Church. In June 2004, I was ordained an Elder in full connection of the United Methodist Church.

July 1, 2008, appointed as the Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande, I look forward to sharing more about me soon, but you must know, I want to listen to your story.

In Ministry Together,  
Pastor David M. Burgeson

*We* GIVE YOU THANKS,  
AND *praise* YOUR  
*glorious*  
*name.*

I CHRONICLES 29:13, NIV



## Cast-A-Net

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**Article Deadline - 10th of the month**

If you would like an article considered for our newsletter, please submit a copy to the church office for review.

**Address Updates:**

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list or have an update to your information, please write our office at 275 N. Halcyon Rd., Arroyo Grande, CA 93420, call (805) 481-2692 or email to [fumcag@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fumcag@sbcglobal.net)





# The Healthy Corner

By Patti Melsheimer

## What is Arthritis?

While often referred to as if it were a single disease, arthritis is actually an umbrella term used for a group of more than 100 medical conditions that collectively affect nearly 46 million adults and 300,000 children in America alone. While the most common form of arthritis -- osteoarthritis (OA) -- is most prevalent in people over 60, arthritis in its various forms can start as early as infancy. Some forms affect people in their young-adult years as they are beginning careers and families and still others start during the peak career and child-rearing years. Some types of arthritis include: Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid arthritis, Gout, Ankylosing spondylitis, (a type of arthritis that affects the spine), Juvenile arthritis, lupus, Scleroderma, and Fibromyalgia. All these affect the musculoskeletal system and specifically the joints - where two or more bones meet. Arthritis-related joint problems include pain, stiffness, inflammation and damage to joint cartilage. Such damage can lead to joint weakness, instability and visible deformities that, depending on the location of joint involvement, can interfere with the most basic daily tasks such as walking, climbing stairs, using a computer keyboard, cutting your food or brushing your teeth.

Together, arthritis and related conditions are a major cause of disability in the United States, costing the U.S. economy more than \$124 billion per year in medical care and indirect expenses such as lost wages and production - and costing millions of individuals their health, their physical abilities and, in many cases, their independence. And unless something changes, the picture is going to get worse. As the population ages, the number of people with arthritis is growing.

There are many myths regarding about this chronic condition. Here are a few of the most common.

Myth #1: Arthritis is just aches and pains. One common myth is that arthritis is just another name for the aches and pains people get as they grow older. While it is true that arthritis becomes more common as people age, arthritis may begin at any age, including childhood. Conversely, some elderly people never develop arthritis.

Myth #2: Arthritis isn't really a serious health problem.

Taken collectively, the various types of arthritis and rheumatic diseases are the most common chronic health conditions in the population, affecting about one in every three adult Americans and nearly 300,000 children. The impact of arthritis on society is substantial. While much of the cost is direct medical costs, a substantial part of the economic burden come from indirect costs, such as lost wages due to work disability.

Myth #3: Not much can be done to alleviate the pain and disability of arthritis. You may think that little can be done to help your arthritis, but this is not true. Although there are no cures for most chronic rheumatic diseases, some improvement in the pain and loss of function is possible in almost everyone with arthritis. Many people with serious types of arthritis, which were severely disabling as recently as a generation ago, are now leading full and productive lives, thanks in part to many developments, including new drugs and treatments, exercise programs, surgeries and self-management. As a person with arthritis, your future is full of possibilities that were only a dream 25 years ago. We need to remember that there is no best treatment for everyone who has a particular type of arthritis, as each individual may respond differently to different treatments. Information and input from the person with arthritis can be as valuable in diagnosis and management as information from laboratory tests and X-rays. In arthritis management, the emphasis is on improving function of

Continued ARTHRITIS page 11



# UMW News

*\* The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.\**

The ladies of our local UMW unit will not have Circle meetings or other activities for the months of July and August due to summer vacation.

However, this summer, the California-Pacific Conference UMW Schools of Christian Mission, along with others, will engage in a new 2 year study on Native Americans. The first of these Schools will be held at Chapman College from July 10—13 and the second at the University of Redlands from July 25—27. Knowing the history of injustices perpetuated against Native Americans, the United Methodist Women seek justice.

Since the UMW is offering this 2-year study on this culture of people, I thought it would be appropriate to tell you about the lives of 2 of the Native American women who have contributed so much to the life of the UMW and their mission. This will be the first of a two-part article. With next month featuring Betty Hodson. These are the voice of Native American United Methodist Women. The insight and reflection of these women add to our understanding of the Native Americans along with their history and heritage as part of the church.

## Excerpt from the *Response* magazine of the United Methodist Women issue dated April 2008



**Josephine Deere** (above)  
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference  
Women's Division director

"I am a member of Fife Memorial United Methodist Church in Muskogee, OK, part of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. I currently serve as a director of the Women's Division, in the capacity of secretary. The 92 Native American churches in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference represent more than 37 tribes in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas."

"In the Indian Removal Act of 1830, the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chicksaw and Seminoles were pressured to move from their homelands of Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Alabama all the way to the Oklahoma territories, through removal treaties. An estimated 100,000 ultimately made the 1,000-mile trek to the 'Indian Territory' of Oklahoma. This movement west is known as the 'Trail of Tears' since many of our ancestors died along the way."

"Our Native American Methodist Women have always been involved in the church. We go way back to the beginnings of Methodist in the United States. When John and Charles Wesley first came to Savannah, GA, they served both English settlers and native tribes. According to the New Georgia Encyclopedia, John Wesley served both settlers and native peoples with the hope, he once said, 'of saving my own soul.' When the Wesleys started a school in Georgia, there were seven tribes involved. We've been Wesleyan since that time! The Native Americans were the ones that brought Methodism to Oklahoma...what was called the Indian Territory...in 1844."

"As a child I attended meetings of the Women's society of Christian Service {a predecessor to the United Methodist women} with my mother, Fanny Chalakee. I was born in 1945, and my mom became our very first district president in 1948. She used to go to the women's meetings with her mother. ... At that time, their meetings and the minutes were all in our tribal language, which is Creek. The women would sew quilts and have devotions."

"Our districts were set up by tribes. I've found it fascinating to go back and read those minutes. Today our meetings are in English, as we gather women from different tribes, speaking many different languages. Also, many of us have lost fluency in our native languages. But we love to sing the hymns in each other's languages."

Continued NATIVE page 4

"I think that some of the challenges that native American women face are similar to those of many other women—health care, jobs, child-rearing. While life of native women living on the reservation and those living in cities differs in many ways, both face hardships. This is especially true for single mothers. Poverty is an all to present reality, while some are distanced from their community and their roots. At the same time, Native American women in the United Methodist Church face some unique challenges. We are a small group within the church and we often feel we are invisible. There is little knowledge or understanding about our cultures and traditions, our histories, or the studies we rarely see our of own history lifted up, and we often do not see our native sisters in leadership in United Methodist Women and the larger church. We have been taught to be humble, but some of us continually find ways to lift up our voices when we have been left out."



**God's Creation  
SCAVENGER HUNT**

You can easily spot God's beautiful creation not just in majestic mountains and vast oceans but also in the smallest bits of nature. Try this fun activity at a park, in your backyard or on a hike.

**What you need:**

- Paper
- Pencils, pens or crayons
- Plastic cups or bowls



**What you do:**

1. Write out the same list of items for each player. One person can do this ahead of time, or the group can determine what to hunt for. Items must be small enough to fit in the container provided. Suggestions include: flower, grain of sand or dirt, seed, blade of grass, feather, small stick, pebble, insect (preferably alive), leaf, thorn, berry and so on.
2. Give a list and a cup (or bowl) to each player.
3. Designate a place to search for items, as well as a time limit (for example, look in the backyard for 15 minutes).
4. During the scavenger hunt, enjoy seeing the beauty of God's creation in the tiniest things. Players should cross off items when found.
5. When time is up, compare items. Point out similarities and differences. Discuss why these items are so amazing. Share Bible verses or stories about some items (for example, Isaiah 40:8 talks about grass and flowers, 1 Corinthians 10:4 talks about Jesus' being our rock, etc.).



Look to the weekly church bulletin for more of the upcoming summer events!

*The Vine Club is open to all elementary school children. We would love to have you join us! Bring a friend and come discover God's word with us!*

Meanwhile, enjoy this fun summer scavenger hunt with your family! It is perfect for a lovely summer day packed with a picnic and playtime.



**PLEDGE**

**REPORT**

**PLEDGE INCOME**

As of May 31st, 2008

Received	Budgeted	Difference
\$ 105,451	\$ 112,054	\$ -6,603

**SUNDAY  
ATTENDANCE**

May 2008

4th	195
11th	167
18th	162
25th	168

May Sunday Average = 173



by Jerry Smith

## A Season for Change: “Goodbye and Hello”

**GOODBYE - PASTOR BOB:** By the time my comments and quotations are printed in the July Newsletter, many of you will have bid a fond farewell to retiring pastor Robert Underwood. My experience serving on the Communications Committee with this man was a great opportunity and something I will not forget. Yes, it's an emotional time for all of us who know and respect this good man. He leaves this church with a legacy of getting things done. And don't think for one minute Pastor Bob would want anyone to focus on the sadness of his leaving. He would remind us all to think positive about his leaving and the future of this church as it grows and prospers. We all look forward to Pastor David Burgeson's vision for serving the UMCAG congregation. He in return will recognize that we're a Christian family of open minds, open hearts with an open door for anyone that wishes to share with us their love and trust in God.

**HELLO - PASTOR DAVID:** Imagine if you will, we're on a distant flight and Pastor Bob Underwood piloted the first leg. Now it's up to Pastor David Burgeson to take over the flight controls and continue on to the next leg of our destination. That destination is defined below in the Structure and Organization of the UMC.

“United Methodists often joke about the many organizational layers of church life, but, as members of other denominations have been heard to say: “If you want something done, get the Methodists to do it.” Followers of the Wesley's (John and Charles) are indeed “methodical” about the ways they approach mission and ministry.

One reason United Methodists are able to accomplish great things is the church's emphasis on “connectionalism.” It is common to hear United Methodist leaders speak of the denomination as “the connection.” This concept has been central to Methodism from its beginning.

The United Methodist Church, which began as a movement and a loose network of local societies with a mission, has grown into one of the most carefully organized and largest denominations in the world. The United Methodist structure and organization began as a means of accomplishing the mission of spreading Scriptural Holiness over the land. John Wesley recognized the need for an organized system of communication and accountability and developed what he called the “connexion,” which was an interlocking system of classes, societies, and annual conferences. (UM Member's Handbook, p. 24)

No local church is the total body of Christ. Therefore, local United Methodist churches are bound together by a common mission and common governance that accomplish reaching out into the world. United Methodist churches and organizations join in mission with each other and with other denominations.

Connectionalism shows through the clergy appointment system, through the developing of mission and ministry that United Methodists do together, and through giving.

An example of connectionalism: Mission work around the world, whether it be a new university in Africa or bicycles for Cuban pastors, is the work of “the connection,” as opposed to the work of a single congregation.”

Farewell and good luck Pastor Bob Underwood and a warm welcome for Pastor David Burgeson. Our prayers are with both of you as we turn another page in the history of the First United Methodist Church on Halcyon Road in Arroyo Grande CA – June 2008

*SOURCE: [United Methodism 101](#), an online introduction to the UMC.*



## Lets Lend A Hand

Please wear your name tag and give a head start to the new pastor and visiting guests who will be working eagerly to learn your name.

If you don't have a name tag, the church office will order one for you for \$2.95.

**See you in church!**



I AM NOT ASHAMED  
OF THE GOSPEL FOR IT  
IS THE POWER OF  
GOD FOR  
SALVATION!

ROMANS 1:16

# 2009: A Year to Celebrate

The year 2009 is just around the corner and with it comes the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande. On May 4<sup>th</sup> an Ad Hoc Committee met to get the ball rolling for our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. At this brief meeting it was decided that input from everyone in the congregation was important; that there should be several "events" to showcase various aspects of our church history; and that our celebration should culminate in an all-church dinner in September to which we would invite past members, as well as the members of the current congregation and church family.

So far, Jean Hubbard has agreed to continue with the history of the church which she has kept the past 40 years, with Jim David as her computer support person in producing the commemorative book. Kathleen and Doug Ballagh volunteered to work on the computer presentation of the celebration. We would like to see "historical" input from various groups such as our youth, UMM, UMW, RUMP, The Chancel Choir, The Lord's Crew—our praise team, Grande Ringers—our hand bells, the Puppet People, and any other group that functions within the church. (Here's a chance to take a page from our youth and be creative—slide shows, skits, and other performances would be most welcome.) And of course, individual sharing is really important. It is critical to have all our seniors who remember the church in the village get involved. Since some are not able to get to the church, we need to go to them for their valuable input.

We need an over-all chairperson, as well as, people who are willing to chair each sub-group that will be sharing our past and present with the congregation throughout the year. Most importantly—we need YOU!! We would like to see everyone choose a committee of interest and participate in putting this 100 year celebration together.

Remember, no matter how new you are in the church your input is valued! After all, history isn't just "long ago and far away." History includes stories of yesterday.

The next meeting will be July 13<sup>th</sup> following the second service in the McMillan room. Everyone who wants to be a part is welcome to join us and share new ideas.



**PRESENTING OUR 2008-2009  
EVERETT LEE TAYLOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**  
**“Our Awesome Three C’s Take  
Home the Gold”**

Youth Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, was a most important day in the life of our church when we were able to celebrate the many accomplishments of our youth. One special recognition was the announcing of the 2008-2009 Everett Lee Taylor Scholarship recipients. This year marks the eighteenth anniversary of our college scholarship fund, and during these years, thirty-five outstanding church youth and adults have received these annual scholarships totaling over \$29,500 to help students defray the cost of their education.

Thanks to the generosity of our church family, we were able to grant three scholarships this year, all to repeat recipients. Christina Bailey, a sophomore at Long Beach State; Caitlin Riley, a junior at University of California, Santa Cruz; and Chelsea Bailey, a senior at Sonoma State University!

Congratulations and best wishes to Christina, Caitlin, and Chelsea, and thanks to all our church members who continually support this wonderful program! **God bless you all!**

~Nancy Gerrish, *Scholarship Chair*



Chelsea Bailey (above), Caitlin Riley (middle) and Cristina Bailey (right)

## The UM Youth Car Wash A HUGE Success!

The UM Youth (under the direction of Mike and Linda Herber) and everyone involved had a lot of fun on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. We earned a whopping \$1,232 for the Camp Arroyo Grande cabin building project which is focused on the building of two new cabins.

The youth (and some of the parents) carried signs reading “Your Car Wash Builds Camp Cabins” in front of the Sunset North Car Wash on Grand Avenue in Arroyo Grande.

The 9 AM to 4 PM car wash had different groups who worked in two to three hours shifts holding signs to promote the fundraiser. Helping with the event was our troop # 1013 of Girl Scouts with it’s leaders Judie Smith and Karen Carslisle and Boy Scout Troop # 489 under the leadership of Scoutmaster Keith Storton of the San Luis Obispo United Methodist Church.

Val McClure, Bill Weitkamp and Tom Egan, all members of UMC of AG, who serve on the Camp Arroyo Grande Site Committee, report that the camp project is getting closer to its goal of \$200,000. This money will be used to build the two new cabins on the 29 acre camp which is located above the Bank of America in the Old Village of Arroyo Grande. So far, the Capital Fund Drive that began in 2006 has raised \$165,000 to lay foundations and start the cabins, along with electrical and plumbing for four more in the same complex. The project is under the auspices of the Board of Camping and Outdoor Retreat Ministries of the Cal-Pac Annual Conference.





# UM YOUTH NEWS

It is hard to believe as I write this that school is out and we are half way through June. A big thank you to our whole church

family congregation for coming and supporting the youth June 8 for Youth Sunday. Every year it is exciting to see the Youth challenge and stretch themselves out of their comfort zones to be able to share with the congregation. We as always are nervous to make sure everything will go well, and as always, God oversees everything and all is well. Thanks to the Beginning Bells for their beautiful bell pieces under the capable leadership of Hilary Henderson. Another big thank you to Hilary and also Tina Moore who are both always willing to help whenever asked. This year we had three video presentations and although Caitlin and Willy helped with video taping and Caitlin helped with some of the post production, a extra big thank you to Sean Lehman for finishing the presentations into their final forms. We couldn't have done it without you Sean. Of course thanks to Devin, Adrian, Caitlin, Amanda, Jennifer, Jordan, Danica, Alonzo (on crutches), and David for working so hard by coming to practice and learning their lines and making our job very rewarding. We were able to raise \$581.91 through our bake sale. Wow, again thank you to our generous congregation. We wound up our major recycling campaign (although we will still continue to have our carton out for anyone wishing to bring recycling. This money will go towards camp for next year and other activities). We started recycling in March by having the youth bring on Wednesdays and Sundays recycling they had saved during the week. This was supplemented by church members giving us their recycling (again thank you Sean!). Mike and Linda also collected through friends, family members, work, and on our nightly walks. Our grand total for our efforts was \$783.64. We also received \$165.00 in donations. The final figure with the bake sale, recycling, and donations comes to \$1530.55 raised since March for Camp Colby. This combined with money we have previously raised (through the Harvest Festival, Santa's Workshop, and The Spudtacular) and monies generously received from the United Methodist Men and Endowment Board will be sending fourteen members of our youth to camp this year, our biggest number of youth ever going! So once again thank you, thank you, thank you and God Bless you all.

We loved being able to give back to the church by being ushers for Father's Day. We hope to be able to have this opportunity again in the future.

The youth had fun at the church potluck and game night and hope to see everyone at the next one! This was a fun event for all ages to get together and fellowship with each other.

We will continue to meet during the summer on Wednesdays and Sundays. We are hoping to have a Lock-In soon, as this activity seems to be the most requested (not by the adults though, it is hard to stay up all night especially when you are past thirty!). Mike will once again be a counselor at Camp Colby's junior high camp which runs from July 13-19. The seniors will attend Camp Colby from July 17 through August 2. In Christ's Service, *Mike and Linda*

We welcome all young people in junior high or high school to join us on Wednesdays at 7 PM in our new Youth Lounge for a time of fellowship and fun!





## You're Invited!

# You Are Invited to Your Church Council

The Church Council, chaired by Marian Balster, meets every third Thursday of every other month at 7:00 p.m. in the McMillen Room. Guest what? All church members are welcome to attend as voting members of the Church Council. You may ask, "What does the Church Council do and why should I attend?"

The Church Council provides for the planning and implementing of a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in our local church. It also provides for the administration of the church. The Council seeks to envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church.

The nurturing ministries of the congregation gives attention to education, worship, Christian formation, membership care, small groups, and stewardship. Attention is given to the needs of individuals and families of all ages.

The outreach ministries of the church give attention to local and larger community ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy. These ministries include church and society, global ministries, higher education and campus ministry, health and welfare, Christian unity, religion and race, and the status and role of women.

The witness ministries of the church shall give attention to developing and strengthening evangelistic efforts of sharing of personal and congregational stories of Christian experience, faith, and service; communication, and other means that give expressions of witness for Jesus Christ.

As you can see, the tasks of the Church Council are numerous and exciting and we know that all church members can contribute to the ongoing ministries of the church. Our next meeting is August 21 at 7:00 p.m. Again, you are invited to serve your church through the wondrous work of the Church Council (formerly known as the Administrative Board).



"Seven days without prayer makes one weak"  
*Unknown*



## Bulletin Bloopers

**Good for a laugh!**

*These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced from the pulpit.*

The sermon this morning:  
"Jesus Walks on the Water"  
The sermon tonight:  
"Searching For Jesus"



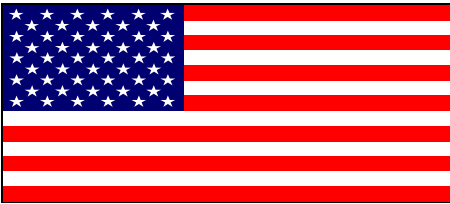
We would like to encourage you to send any blurb, news, photo, announcement, etc. to post on our new website. Our own Jamie Foster has graciously taken time to layout a fantastic new website. You can visit it at [worshipweekly.com](http://worshipweekly.com). We would love to see any photos of recent events and/or news about upcoming events. Please e-mail your information directly to Jamie at [www.jf2.com/umcag](mailto:www.jf2.com/umcag) or to the church office [fumcag@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fumcag@sbcglobal.net). All information can also be brought to the office as a hard copy as well. Please leave any personal information out for security reasons (i.e., phone number, birthdays etc.) as it will be on the world wide web.

**Continued ARTHRITIS pg 3**

joints and relieving pain. Your doctor and health-care team need your involvement to help you to the fullest extent. People with arthritis and health professionals are partners in care. Something can always be done to improve the situation for a person with arthritis.

For more information, go to the Arthritis web site at [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org) or contacting you local Arthritis office at Santa Barbara Branch, 2253 Las Positas Road, Suite A, Santa Barbara, CA 93105, 805/ 563-4685

(Adapted from *The Arthritis Foundation's Guide to Good Living with Rheumatoid Arthritis*)



During the past 7 weeks I have been able to do nothing. This was made bearable through the love and generosity of my Church family. I received meals, cards, visits, calls, and many prayers. All of this greatly fed me and made me aware that I was in His arms. From the bottom of my heart I say thank you and God Bless!

~ Tom Egan



As God's special creations, people should take every opportunity to appreciate all that He has made.

Use the words in the box below to complete this puzzle. Then match the number for the word to the blank below to finish Psalm 104:24, NIV.

**Word Box**

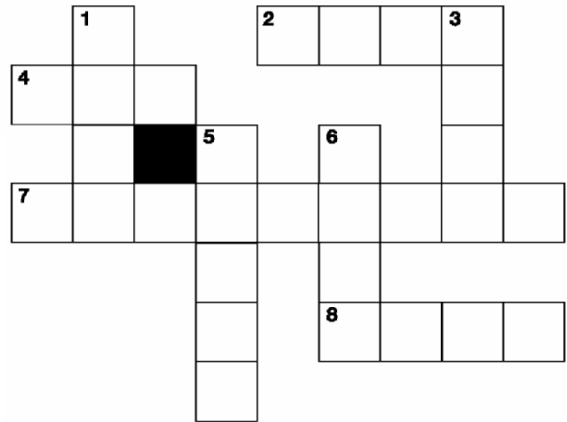
Creatures Earth  
Them Made How  
Lord Your Full

**Across**

- 2. Rhymes with gem
- 4. Rhymes with cow
- 7. Rhymes with features
- 8. Rhymes with cord

**Down**

- 1. Rhymes with pour
- 3. Rhymes with fade
- 5. Rhymes with worth
- 6. Rhymes with pull



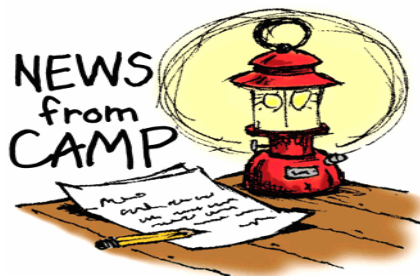
" \_\_\_\_\_ many are \_\_\_\_\_ works, O \_\_\_\_\_ !  
4 1 8

In wisdom you \_\_\_\_\_ all;  
3 2

the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ of your \_\_\_\_\_."  
5 6 7

Psalm 104:24, NIV

Answers: "How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures." Psalm 104:24, NIV



**Have Fun at Summer Camp!!**

We want to wish all of our young people a fun time filled with crazy camp high jinx. Tell us all about your fun and foolishness when you return! Take lots of photos to share with your church family!



Arroyo Grande UMC is taking applications for the Christian Education Director who coordinates and oversees all education and activities. The position requires good communication skills, ability to work with individuals and groups, and will require experience with developing educational programs. Please contact the church office for a job description and application forms for this annual 12 month position, contact the church office at (805) 481-2692 or e-mail us at FUMCAG@sbcglobal.net.



## Five Cities Christian Women

In the May issue of the Cast~A~Net, I reported that 10% of our funds is spent on operating expenses. Here is a list of our income and expenses for 2007.

### Income

Donations	\$11,100.32
Churches	10,811.74
Organizations	5,961.15
Monthly potluck	329.07
Cup fund	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,202.28</b>

### Expenses—Food

Food Bank	\$ 9,514.88
Food Maxx	7,720.50
Rosemary Farm	6,832.50
Cookie Crock	1,379.40
Von's	741.99
Nine other stores	1,460.85

### Expenses—operating

Central Coast Baptist Church	\$ 1,200.00
Liability Insurance	1,000.00
AT & T	393.61
Postmaster	200.00
Office Maxx	60.33
Grover Beach Sanitary Services	50.53
Wal-Mart	23.18
Miner's hardware	15.25
Dollar Store	1.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,943.90</b>

### Total Expenses

Food	\$ 27,650.12
Non-food	2,943.90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 30,594.02</b>

Yes, we spent more than we took in last year, but we had a balance on hand from 2006. Our treasurer reports that we have \$10,000 less in our account now than we did at this time last year. We are trying to be very conservative in our spending and have shoppers who constantly search the ads for the best bargains.

Part of the reason for our increase in expenses is that we are now required to have liability insurance. We also used to pay \$ .49 per dozen for eggs, delivered, then that was increased to \$2.59 per dozen. The latest bill was \$2.02 per dozen, delivered. We distribute approximately 40 dozen eggs per day.

We are experiencing an increase in families seeking assistance. We used to average between 30-35 families per day and now the average is 40.

Any assistance is appreciated. Canned goods and staples may be left in the wicker basket in the narthex. Monetary donations may be mailed to the Five Cities Christian Women at P.O. Box 756, Grover Beach, CA 93483. Thanks you for your consideration. ~Bennie Duffin

# THE TRUSTEES REPORT

## New Facilities Upgrades

As United Methodists we offer this invitation: "If you are searching for something to believe in or belong to, you're not alone. Our hearts, our minds and our doors are always open." And that is the task for our congregation as we open our doors to welcome others, help them find the saving power of God and nurture them to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

We have recently completed two remodels which enhance the welcoming nature of our facilities. The new message sign (*pictured below at right*) on Halcyon Road speaks to the community of our events and hospitality with appealing design and colorful illumination. The ladies narthex bathroom (*pictured below at left*) is now handicap accessible and enhanced with ceramic tile, new lighting, plumbing, partitions and an infant changing station. These improvements provide convenience and attraction to our buildings and grounds which communicates an atmosphere of friendliness.

Of course the friendly nature of the congregation is most important to fulfill the promise and indeed welcome anyone who walks through the doors of our church with open hearts and minds.

We wish to express our gratitude to the following persons whose gifts enabled these improvements:

***The new sign is given to us by  
Guy Oates and Marj Wolters  
in loving memory of their spouses,  
Corlyss Oates and Norman "Bud" Wolters.***



***The bathroom remodel was funded by  
Carl and Leona Beerup  
in loving memory of Helen and Faye Lehman.***



# UMW CIRCLES

## July 2008

*The ladies will not meet July and August for summer vacation.*

The ladies of **J.O.Y. Circle** meet on every third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM.



The ladies of **Esther Circle** meet on the second Thursday of each month at 12 noon.

**Esther** Our **Mary-Martha Circle** meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM in the McMillen Room



*We want to encourage all ladies to join and find a Circle that will meet her needs. Come out for some fun, food and fellowship as we serve the Lord in ministry.*



Join us at the Lord's Table as we celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** the first Sunday of each month during our 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service and every Sunday during our Contemporary Worship Service



## Special Dates

**Independence Day**  
July 4, 2008

**Our AG UM Children's Center and the Church Office will be closed.**



## Retired United Methodist Persons JULY 2008

All retirees are invited to attend the next RUMP meeting for a **noon** potluck on **July 12th** in the McMillen Room.

We ask that you bring a dish to serve 8 or more and your own table service.

*For more information contact the church office or Bob and Vel Lowry at 929-2373.*

## Men's Bible Study



The men of FUMCAG host a Bible Study at 7 PM in Room 215 every Monday. Join us as we study God's word together.

## Bible Study Group



8:30 AM

Friday Morning

Now is the perfect time to join us! "Wherever two or more are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them" *Matthew 18:20*



# The Mission Corner

*"every member a missionary"*



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church®

UNITED METHODISTS speak many languages and live in many countries with many different cultures, ethnic traditions, national histories and understandings of Christian faith and practice.

WE ARE people dedicated to a life of participation, personal responsibility, generosity, sacrifice and self-restraint, responding to the call of Jesus Christ.

WE ARE a covenant community, concerned about God's children everywhere. In life's clouds of doubt and division, we see the sunlight of God's purpose bringing healing, harmony and hope.

WE LOVE worship, study of God's Word, music, potluck dinners and a sense of community, a sense of belonging.

WE WELCOME people of faith into our churches, and especially people who are searching for answers to life's tough questions, because we know what it's like to feel alone, unsure...to need a welcoming place with open hearts, open minds, open doors.

WE ROLL up our sleeves and say, "Let's get to work," as we answer the call of making disciples for Jesus Christ.

WE LIVE the promise we made the day we joined The United Methodist Church...the promise of our prayers and our presence...our gifts and our service.

*"And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?"*

ROMANS 10:14b, NRSV



Visit our Library

We now have two copies of *World War Two Memories* that can be checked out. Also available are two new daily devotionals—the Upper Room Disciplines 2008 and Women of Faith. Summer Time is the Time to Read!

For freedom Christ has set us free.



Galatians 5:1

## Enjoy Your Freedom

Because many Americans have never known other circumstances, it's easy to take our liberties for granted. The Israelites knew firsthand the oppression of slavery. Yet when God finally led them out of Egypt, they had problems adjusting to their newfound freedom. Fearful and rebellious, the Israelites grumbled against their leaders, Moses and Aaron, saying they would've been better off as slaves in Egypt.

Our freedom as Christians cost Jesus his life. But we, too, often find it easier to fall back into sinful habits. In Galatians 5:1, Paul offers this encouragement: "For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (NRSV).

We're no longer bound by sin and death. That "independence" is worth celebrating every day!



*"Let them ever sing for joy... that those who love Thy name may exult in Thee"*



**Do You Have A Musical Talent?**

Know someone who does? We would like to invite you to come share it with the church. We are seeking soloists, duets or small ensembles for our **summer special music**. Please contact Julie Walters for open summer dates and times 929-8494.



*Women of Prayer*

This non-denominational women's group meets in the sanctuary weekly at **7 PM on Tuesday** evenings to pray for this church and all others in the Central Coast and Five Cities area; asking God to pour out His Spirit of redemption, deliverance, healing and salvation. For information, contact Susan Coho at 474-0912.



Do you have a special prayer request?  
Do you have a praise to share?  
Bring it to our Prayer Chain. Contact **Betty Ann Quintana at 773-2896** and she will begin the process.  
The Prayer Chain is available to any and all who are in need of prayer for themselves or for others.

***Your request can remain anonymous.***



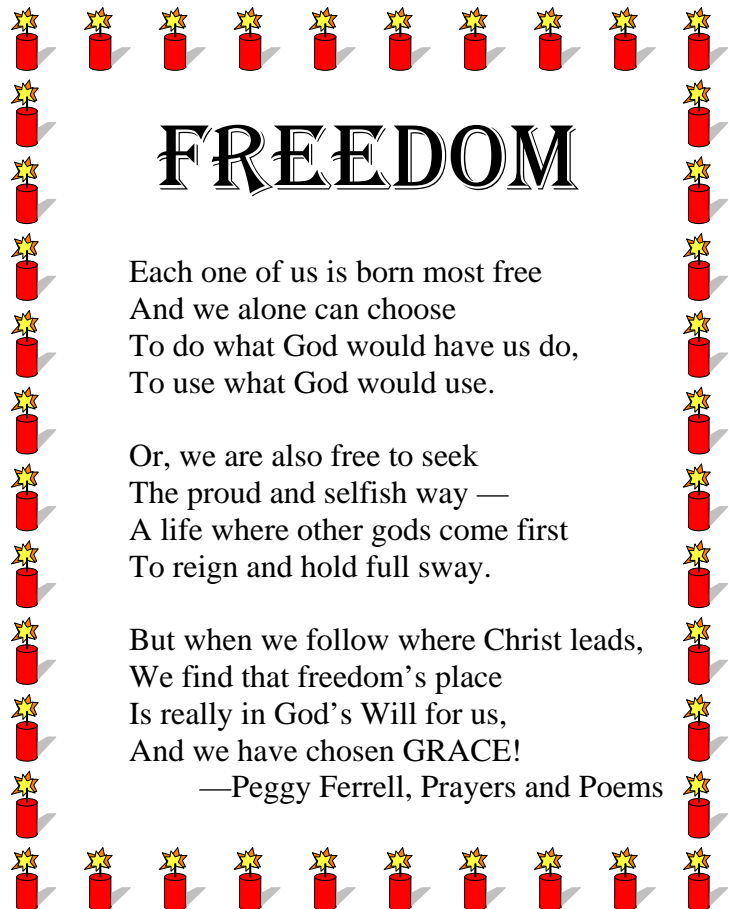
THE PRAISE BAND IS A TEAM OF WORSHIP LEADERS FOR OUR CONTEMPORARY CHURCH SERVICE SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 8:30 AM LED BY SUSAN COHO. THIS GROUP MEETS EVERY OTHER SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

**JULY 2008**

**6:30 PM REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

(EACH REHEARSAL HAS A 5:30 SET-UP TIME)

- 4TH INDEPENDENCE DAY - HOLIDAY
- 12TH REHEARSAL
- 26TH REHEARSAL



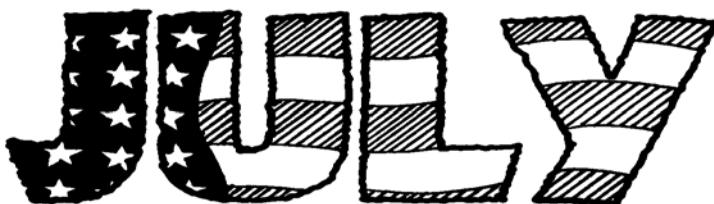
**FREEDOM**

Each one of us is born most free  
And we alone can choose  
To do what God would have us do,  
To use what God would use.

Or, we are also free to seek  
The proud and selfish way —  
A life where other gods come first  
To reign and hold full sway.

But when we follow where Christ leads,  
We find that freedom's place  
Is really in God's Will for us,  
And we have chosen GRACE!

—Peggy Ferrell, Prayers and Poems





# What Attracts People to Church?

Why do people select a particular church? A convenient location? Yes. A good speaker in the pulpit? Yes. Inspiring music? Yes. An attractive building? Yes.

But a more essential element in attracting visitors, newcomers and prospective members is friendliness — both in the pew and throughout the community. Where there is a warm, dynamic congregation with an enthusiasm that's contagious, visitors will usually be found, and will return.

A church can buy many advantages with money, such as nice buildings, trained leadership, effective advertising and an abundance of supplies for spiritual and social use. *But old-fashioned friendliness, of which the world is sorely in need, can't be purchased with money.* It comes only from the hearts of dedicated people who love God and enjoy helping others feel at home in their church.



## MEN'S UNITED METHODIST MEN



### REMEMBERING JUNE

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, our annual UMM BBQ was held at the home of Dick and Patti Melsheimer.

Over forty members and their guests enjoyed a delicious lunch of tri-tip and chicken entrees, salads, and baked beans. At the luncheon, we joined Chuck and Kathie Buckton as they celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. Thanks to the Melsheimer's for being a most gracious host and preparing the food along with Steve and Dee Anna Shrefler and Irene Kliesch.

In the same vein, Bud Johnson and I would like to express our appreciation

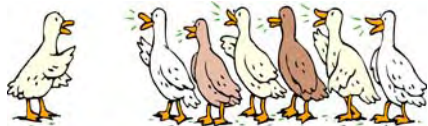
for your support of the pancake breakfasts. Profits from the pancake breakfasts are our primary money raising activity, which allows us to provide donations to various groups. Our latest donation was to the Youth Group, which will partially defray the cost of them attending camp this summer. Kudos to the UMM men who have worked faithfully throughout the year at the breakfasts!

### LOOKING TO SEPTEMBER

After a hiatus during July and August, we will resume our monthly meetings in September at the Mission Inn and All-Church Pancake Breakfasts in Criswell Hall. Have a good summer!

Carl Kliesch, *UMM President*





## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1st	Trustees
2nd	Blue Umbrella
6th	Green Umbrella
7th	Staff-Parish
8th	Communications
17th	Yellow Umbrella
	Finance
	Preschool Board
24th	Red Umbrella



## SUMMER HOURS for CHURCH OFFICE

Our church office will have new summer hours. Please make a note of the following:

M - Th. 9 AM - 2 PM  
Friday 9 AM - noon

Have a great summer!!



## Bible Quiz

Both the Old and New Testaments speak of God's people as seeking and achieving freedom. The freedom we Americans have to worship without government restriction has deep roots in our Judeo-Christian heritage.

Which Bible verse about freedom is inscribed on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia?

- A. "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10)
- B. "And ye ... had done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbor" (Jer. 34:15).
- C. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free" (Galatians 5:1).
- D. "As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of Maliciousness, but as the servants of God" (1 Peter 2:16).

Answer: A



## CHURCH D I R E C T O R Y

New directories will be available in the narthex this month. Look to the church bulletin for the date. Please be sure to check your listed information and submit any corrections including e-mail changes, changes in status of age group, spelling, etc. Another edition will not be printed until January 2009! Thank you all for your cooperation.

## ACCESSIBLE HEALTH CARE

**The United Methodist Social Principles** offer guidance in addressing the health care crisis with more than 46 million American uninsured.

Health is a condition of physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being, and we view it as a responsibility – public and private. Health care is a basic human right. Psalm 146 speaks of the God "who executes justice for the oppressed;/ who gives food to the hungry./ The Lord sets the prisoners free;/ the Lord opens the eyes of the blind." The right to health care includes care for persons with brain diseases, neurological conditions or physical disabilities, who must be afforded the same access to health care as all other person in our communities. It is unjust to construct or perpetuate barriers to physical or mental wholeness or full participation in community.





"MALACHI MOUSE SAYS..."

Only YOU can help "feed" Malachi Mouse. Do you have some interesting news? Vacations, weddings, births, good golf scores, ... any gossip that's fit to print?

Drop your news by the church office. Malachi Mouse would love to hear from you!



Look Who's Monkeyin' around!



Granddaughter of Bill and Gladys Paulsen, Sagan Friant is surrounded by Native children (above left) in Iko Esia, Africa.

She is there as part of her masters program to earn her Ph.D. in Primatology at Oxford Brooks in England. Sagan has worked there for 3 months as a student volunteer for the Ceropan Conservation Organization whose focus is on primate rehabilitation and research. While there, Sagan gathered data (above right) for her dissertation. When she returns after a 2nd trip of 6 months, she will start a Ph.D. program at Wisconsin University with hopes of returning to Africa and her Magabey monkeys.

- R. N. Gilliland 7/2
- Gladys Paulsen 7/2
- Jim Orrell 7/2
- Shirley Cross 7/4
- Bud Johnson 7/6
- Mary Oates 7/6
- Mike Rohla 7/9
- Madge Young 7/10
- Dick Melsheimer 7/14
- Sarah Barber 7/14
- Lillian Duffin 7/15
- Vicky Curtis 7/18
- Serafina Regusci 7/19
- Joel Anderson 7/19
- Betty Lorenz 7/20
- Pam Awalt 7/21
- Lew Hammond 7/22
- Samantha Awalt 7/24
- Montana Dobbs 7/29
- Morrie Gregory 7/29
- Cassie Williams 7/29
- Donna Truman 7/30
- Zac Spalding 7/31



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Talk about monkey business!!

Congratulations to Children's Center Director, Maddy Quaglino (left) and Pre-K teacher, Diana Smith (right), for their accomplishment in attaining Bachelor of Science Degree in Child Development from the University of LaVerne. Maddy also received departmental honors. Nicely done you two!



Did we miss your birthday? Would you like to have your name or a family member recognized? Please let us know! We would love to hear from you!!





**8th Church Council**  
*(formerly Ad Board)*

**13th SPRC**

**20th Finance**

**27th Red umbrella**

*Coffee Hour responsibilities include the set-up and clean-up of the coffee pots and providing refreshments for both the 8:30 AM & 11:30 AM Coffee Hour times in Criswell Hall.*  
~ Thank you!

# July



- 1st Trustees
- 2nd Senior Health Screening  
Blue Umbrella
- 3rd People's Kitchen
- 4th Independence Day**
- 6th Green Umbrella
- 7th Staff- Parish Relations
- 8th Communications
- 12th Praise Team Rehearsal  
RUMP
- 17th Yellow Umbrella  
Finance  
Preschool Board
- 24th Red Umbrella
- 26th Praise Team Rehearsal

July 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



**OFFICE:** (805) 481-2692  
**FAX:** (805) 481-2693  
**FUMAG@SBCGLOBAL.NET**

Bishop: Mary Ann Swenson  
Superintendent: Rev. Cathleen Coots  
Pastor: Rev. David Burgeson  
Min. of Visitation: Rev. Harold Headrick  
Secretary/ Newsletter: Sarah Barber

Bookkeeper /Consultant: Victoria Gandy  
Multi-Media Coordinator: Sean Lehman  
Music Director: Julie Walters  
Praise Team Leader: Susan Coho  
Pianists: Sean Lehman  
Organist: Don McGuire  
Grande Ringers Director: Leonard Lutz  
Youth Handbell Dir.: Hilary Henderson

Puppet Coordinators: Willy Ford-Raetz & Mike Herber  
Youth Directors: Mike & Linda Herber  
Children's Director: Nancy Baughman  
**United Methodist Children's Center**  
**AG UM Children's Center Director:**  
Madrigal (Maddy) Quaglino  
Children's Center Office: (805) 481-2223  
**AGUMCC@SBCGLOBAL.NET**



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