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And the God
of all grace ... will himself
restore you and make you
strong, firm and steadfast.

1 Peter 5:10, NIV

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Leonard Lutz

Adult Ministry Director:
Sandra Sawyer

UM Youth Directors:
Mike & Linda Herber

Children's' Ministry Director:
Seeking applicant

Christian Counseling Intern:
Carol Gandy

Bishop:
Mary Ann Swenson

District Superintendent:
Rev. Cathleen Coots

AG UM Children's Center
agumcc@sbcglobal.net
(805) 481-2223

Director:
Madrigal Quagliano



The First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

Cast~A~Net

March 2010

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

Phone: 805-481-2692 Website: WorshipWeekly.com Email: FUMCAG@sbcglobal.net



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Next Month:

Umbrella Teams and
Church Council

Ministry Team 2010

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Insert

Children's Center Chronicle

Our Team

Chair: David Beaman
Layout Editor: Sarah Barber
Proofers: Sarah Barber, David Beaman, Pastor David Burgeson & Virginia Mothes
Our Committee: Sarah Barber, David Beaman, Reverend David Burgeson, Heidi Carpentier, Virginia Mothes, Jerry Smith, Betty Johnson and Michael Thurman.
Photographer: Gary Hughes with varied monthly contributors.
Deadline: 10th of each month
 Articles must be submitted by this date for consideration.
Address Updates: Do you want to be removed from our mailing list? Need to update information? Add a friend?
Contact our church office at (805) 481-2692 or e-mail us at fumcag@sbcglobal.net



I want to thank you for the many ways you share out of your abundance when called upon. In this last month, in addition to your regular giving, you contributed \$3297 for earthquake relief in Haiti. (This we sent to our conference earmarked for United Methodist Committee on Relief # 418325.) On *Soup-er Bowl Sunday* you also bought items for 95 Health Care Kits and 5 Layette Kits, donated 358 non-perishable items to Five Cities Christian Women's Food Bank along with \$103 for support that our youth group gives for Blandy, the Compassion International child they support in Guatemala.

Staff-parish team is working on creating and reviewing job descriptions for each paid staff member. This team consists of Rosemary MacKeen and Lucy Jacob who are the co chairs, as well as Joy Collins, Nancy St. Laurent, Bud Johnson, Chuck Ashton, Nick Ballagh, and Tina Moore. Over the next several months, I will, along the help of our nominating committee, be reviewing lay ministry job descriptions. The committee members are myself, Vel Lowry, Kent Unsworth, Nancy Baughman, Linda Herber, Hilary Henderson, Mike Balster, Nancy St. Laurent, and David Beaman.

I want to mention, as we are in the season of Lent, that this is a good time for each of us to make it a number one priority to be in worship with your church family, participate in a Bible study here at our church. Invite and/or bring someone to a church function (for study or for fellowship) that may not have a church home.

I am looking forward to joining Mike and Linda Herber in leading Confirmation for our youth, where they will hear about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, and a member of our congregation, beginning March 20. You will be hearing more about this during this month.

A reminder: In January we started Christian Counseling here at our church. There are times in our lives when we need a place to lean. To schedule an appointment, please call Carol Gandy at (805) 234-4715. Brochures are in the narthex and church office.



Pastor David M. Burgeson

March Sermon Themes

DATE	SCRIPTURE	THEME
7th	I Corinthians 10: 1—13	How to Overcome Temptation
14th	Luke 15: 1—3; 11b—23	U-Turns Allowed
21st	John 12: 1—8	Extravagance
28th	Luke 19: 28—40	You R Needed



- Gary Bailey 3/2
- Carina Avila 3/2
- Tom Egan 3/3
- Lillian Taylor 3/4
- Jerry Smith 3/8
- Jay Campbell 3/6
- Julie Wise 3/7
- Lucy Jacob 3/7
- Doris Leddy 3/7
- Marjorie Stinson 3/7
- Joe St. Laurent 3/7
- Ethel Gilliland 3/8
- Sue Davis 3/8
- Pat Wiemers 3/13
- Jeff Treat 3/14
- Sheila Riley 3/14
- Pam Campbell 3/16
- Arthur Lowe 3/18
- Jo Underwood 3/19
- JoAnn Wizeman 3/20
- Shirley Noll 3/20
- Toni Harvey 3/20
- Ronald Earley 3/22
- Marian Middleton 3/23
- Arletta Truesdale 3/25
- Ariel Waterman 3/28
- Tammy Wise 3/30
- Danica Johnson 3/30
- Charles Ashton 3/30
- Imelda Lowe 3/30



Did we miss your birthday?
 Would you like to have you or a family member recognized? Let us know!



Meet us on Sunday's after worship in Criswell Hall. Hosts for a special time of fellowship will be:

- 7th AG UM Children's Center
- 14th Mary-Martha Circle
- 21st UMM Pancakes
- 28th Endowment Board

Thank you to all who participated in a show of support for the people of Haiti

We, as a church, have now sent: **\$3297 in cash donations**

- **95 Health Care Kits** (consisting of a hand towel, a wash cloth, a comb, a tooth brush, nail clippers or nail file, a bar of soap and six band-aids) and \$1 to cover the costs of tooth paste.
- **5 Layette Kits** (consisting of 2 gowns, 2 shirts, 6 cloth diapers, 2 baby wash cloths, 2 receiving blankets, 2 gowns, 2 diapers pins, and 1 sweater)

The generous supporters of the United Methodist church nationwide have contributed more than \$11 million to UMCOR's (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Haiti recovery plan, as well as the components for more than 350,000 health kits, which are positioned to be distributed in Haiti as soon as circumstances allow. "The response of the church has been remarkable and generous," said Bishop Joel Martinez, General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) interim general secretary. "Even the smallest gift has the power to bless."

Steps are now being taken to prepare for United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) teams to respond in Haiti. According to Melissa Crutchfield, an UMCOR executive for international disaster relief, in collaboration with the Methodist Church in Haiti, volunteer projects and programs are being developed to align with UMCOR's work plan based on the needs identified. To learn more about how UMCOR is responding to the earth quake in Haiti and how our dollars are being used or to volunteer for a work team you can go to their website at <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/>

Small-Group News



Join us Sundays as we continue our study on *The End Times* led by Tina Moore and Kathleen Ballagh.

You won't want to miss it every **Sunday morning** in the **McMillen Room** immediately following the 8:30 AM service. Be a part of the quest to seek God's will for your lives and strengthen your daily walk with Christ.



Adult Bible Study



The **Women of Prayer** is a non-denominational women's group that meet at **7 PM** on **Mondays** in the UMC of AG sanctuary to pray for this church and others in the community; asking God to pour out His Spirit of redemption, deliverance, healing and salvation. Please contact *Susan Coho* if you have any questions with regard to this group of special ladies.

New Gathering For Women **A TOUCH OF BEAUTY**

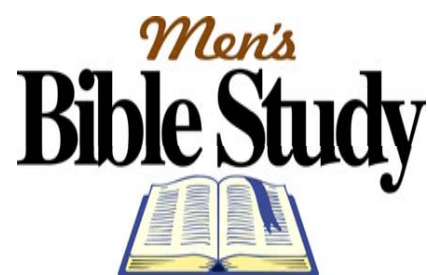
Come out to our newest program for all women of the church and the community on the 3rd Friday evening of each month from 7-8:30 in the **McMillen Room**.

*We enjoy food & fellowship
We lift our voice to the Lord in song
We hear a testimony
We receive a teaching from the Word
We close with prayer*

You won't want to miss this "date" with the Lord and the sharing of His love for you.



Join our Men's Bible Study, Mondays at 7 PM in room 215 you can join with other men who have committed themselves to Christ and who seek spiritual leadership through Christ's word and His teachings. Join the men as they "*Learn the Bible in 24 Hours*" through this book by Dr. Chuck Missler.



All are welcome to meet with us on **Fridays at 8:30 AM** in the library and get to know our church members in this small group setting. This is the perfect time to join us as we are starting a **new book *Come Thirsty*, by Max Lucado** We look forward to having you with us!



**Do you have a prayer request?
A grateful praise?
Bring it to our Prayer Chain.**

Every **Thursday at 10 AM** a group of dedicated prayer warriors, our **Intercessory Prayer Group**, meets in the Library to pray for members of our church family, and other requests mentioned on the prayer request cards, those mentioned in services each week, those written in the prayer book and called in via prayer chain. We invite any who would like to join and lift up these requests to the Lord. Contact the church office for more information.

Requests can remain anonymous.



by Patti Melsheimer

HAVE YOU MADE APPOINTMENTS FOR YOUR ANNUAL HEALTH SCREENINGS?

If you think you are well and perfectly healthy, think again. You may have a condition that you are unaware of. Health screening can help reduce the risk of complications of diseases, and might even save your life. Health screening is for everyone, including you, and here's why. Health screening helps you find out if you are suffering from a particular disease or condition. Screening can help you detect disease conditions you may have, even if you look and feel well. In fact, many conditions such as diabetes and high blood cholesterol often have no early signs or symptoms.

It should be noted that there is not universal agreement as to which tests should be performed for health screening and when they should be performed. Individual doctors and insurers may have their own philosophies about health screening tests. What follows, then, are common recommendations; individuals should consult their doctors and insurers for information specific to their needs. **Schedule your test NOW!**

FOR WOMEN

TEST NEEDED	WOMEN 20 -39 YRS	WOMEN 40 - 49 YRS	WOMEN 50 +
Pelvic Exam	Every year	Every year	Every year
Pap Test	Every year	Every year	Every year
Breast Exam	At least every 3 yrs	Every year	Every year
Skin Exam	At least every 3 yrs	Every year	Every year
Blood Pressure		At least every 2 yrs	At least every 2 yrs
Cholesterol Test		Every 5 years	Every 3 years
Mammography		Every 1-2 years	Every year
Fasting Glucose		Every 3 yrs after 45	Every three years
Thyroid			Every 3 – 5 years
Colorectal Cancer			Every 5 – 10 years
Bone Mineral Density			Once as baseline
Fecal Occult Blood Test			Yearly

FOR MEN

TEST NEEDED	MEN 20 - 39 YRS	MEN 40 - 49 YRS	MEN 50 +
Blood Pressure	Every 2 years	Every 2 years	Every 2 years
Skin Exam	Every 3 years	Every year	Every year
Cholesterol	Every 5 years	Every 5 years	Every 3 yrs after 65
Fasting Glucose		Every 3 yrs after 45	Every 3 years
Digital Rectal Exam			Every year
PSA			Every year
Colorectal cancer test			Every 5 – 10 yrs.

- The Parsonage Fund now stands at \$139,228 an increase of approximately \$5,000 from last month.
- The word “lighting” brings up several areas which need repairs. Three outside lights need replacing. One or two were just replaced so we have other problems. The new lights in the Sanctuary were said to be dimmer than the flood lights, so floods were put back in. We are still looking at other options. Sloan Electric has been a great help with our lighting problems. At Tuesdays meeting I informed the Board that Staples and Associates are trying to schedule a date to modify all of our fluorescent fixtures. This includes the Children’s Center. On Wednesday, Staples called and asked when would be a good day to start? I said today. They started Wednesday afternoon and finished Thursday afternoon. Now, all fluorescent fixtures have an electronic ballast and the
- T-8 bulbs. All incandescent lights have been replaced with screw-in fluorescent light bulbs. This has got to help our electric bill. This did not cost us a penny. Don’t tell this to Mr. Anderson, he might take back our budget.
- We have received three bids to repaint the bus, ranging from \$2,212 to \$4,000. The \$4,000 looked to be the best offer, but due to economics it was suggested we hold off for now. I will call the CHP and bring them up to date as to our plans.
- The French drain in the patio area has been completed and was really put to the test. It passed. Thank you Norm.
- Burke and Pace has asked to be put on a month to month agreement instead of signing a 12 month contract. The Board said yes.
- The 4 windows that were repaired in the McMillen Room showed no signs of water damage from the last rain. But the windows upstairs showed no additional signs of damage , so I suggested to the Board that we wait to see if additional damage occurs before spending \$1,000 to have the remaining 8 fixed. Agreed.
- Termites have returned, but in a new location. I’ll call our bug people and set a date.
- We need an additional rain gutter installed above the glass door exit from the McMillen Room. When it rains hard, rain comes off the roof and under the door.
- Betty Lorenz said 8 people attended the defibulator class. Well done.
- There is a group of RVers that go from church to church working on projects. Pastor David



FEBRUARY '10
TOM EGAN, CHAIR



7th 158
14th 172
21st 161

Sunday Average: 164

Monthly Goal

\$21,179.

Received thru 2/21

\$16,065

Difference

-\$5,914

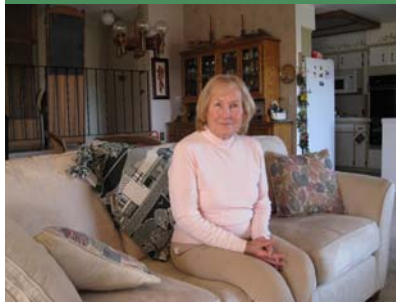
One week to go—we can do it!!

“You have nothing to do but to save souls. Therefore spend and be spent in this work.”

—John Wesley

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 1 1:30 PM Library closed for Christian Counsel (L) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	2 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6 PM Love & Logic Supper/Seminar (211) 7 PM Trustees (MMR)	3 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM EOC Senior Health Screen. (N/L) 2 PM & 6 PM Pastor's Lenten Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	4 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 11:45 AM People's Kitchen <i>leave to serve</i> 5 PM Grande Ringers 7 PM Red Umbrella (MMR)	5 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 4 PM AG UM Children's Center Staff Dev. (MMR)	 6	6
7 Coffee Hour Host—AG UM Children's Center 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:30 AM Sunday School/Bible Study (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 11:45 AM Green Umbrella (MMR)	8 10 AM UMW Steering (MMR) 1:30 PM Library closed for Christian Counsel (L) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	9 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6 PM AG MS Support Group (MMR) 6 PM Love & Logic Supper/Seminar (CH)	10 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 11 AM Blue Umbrella (MMR) 1 PM Alzheimer's Care-Givers Support Group (MMR) 2 PM & 6 PM Pastor's Lenten Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	11 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6:30 PM AG UM CC Sunday BBQ Planning (MMR) 7 PM Finance Committee (MMR)	12 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)	13 2 PM Flute Fun (CH) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearse (S)
14 Coffee Hour Mary-Martha Circle 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:30 AM Sunday School/Bible Study (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service	15 1:30 PM Library closed for Christian Counsel (L) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	16 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10:30 AM Communications Committee (L) 3 PM Preschool Board - closed session (MMR) 4 PM Preschool Board - open session (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6 PM Love & Logic Supper/Seminar (CH) 7 PM JOY Circle	17 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9:30 AM Mary-Martha Circle (MMR) 2 PM & 6 PM Pastor's Lenten Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	18 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 2 PM Yellow Umbrella (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 7 PM Finance Committee (MMR) moved/re-scheduled - 3/11	19 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 1 PM Alzheimer's Care-Givers Support Group (MMR) 7 PM Touch of Beauty (MMR)	20 8:30 AM UMM Breakfast Meeting at the Mission Inn of Pismo Beach 4 PM Confirmation Class Kick-off (MMR)
21 Coffee Hour UMM Pancake Breakfast 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:30 AM Sunday School/Bible Study (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 12 PM Confirmation Class (MMR/215)	22 11 AM Memorial Service for Mary Fernamburg (S/CH) 1:30 PM Library closed for Christian Counsel (L) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	23 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6 PM Love & Logic Seminar (CH)	24 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 2 PM & 6 PM Pastor's Lenten Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	25 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6:30 PM Sunday BBQ Planning Meeting (MMR)	26 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)	27 11:30 AM UMW Quarterly Meeting (CH) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearse (S)
28 Coffee Hour Endowment Board 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:30 AM Sunday School/Bible Study (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 3 PM UMYF Super Group (at Camp AG)	29 1:30 PM Library closed for Christian Counsel (L) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	30 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6 PM Love & Logic Seminar (CH)	31 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 2 PM & 6 PM Pastor's Lenten Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	<p>ABBREVIATION LEGEND</p> <p>MMR McMillen Room CH Criswell Hall K Kitchen S Sanctuary N Narthex P/S Pastor's Study L Library</p>		





A Visit With Bee Frantz by David Beaman

Bernice "Bee" Frantz, the youngest of 7 children, was born in Oakdale, CA into a family who operated a dairy farm that included many other self sustaining enterprises. She and her siblings were taught to manage hard work and to be resourceful. She describes herself as a tomboy who contributed her share to the family by feeding chickens, calves and sheep, gathering eggs, picking peaches, apricots and walnuts, working in the

garden, canning vegetables, preparing meals and helping with housework. It was a busy young life, preparing her for the future.

She married Bob Frantz in 1945 and they first lived in Yuma, AZ as he awaited discharge from WW II service. He needed employment and learned of an opportunity at a weekly newspaper in Idaho. To raise the money needed to relocate, they worked picking peaches, along with many other "mobile families" needing work after wartime. During their 6 years in Weiser, ID Bob served his apprenticeship and Bee worked for Office of Price Admin. plus bookkeeper jobs and their sons Rob and Randy arrived into the family. They endured the harsh Idaho winters plus problems with frozen water lines and longed for the chance to return to a warmer climate.

In 1952 the family moved, first to Lincoln, later to Ceres, CA after Bob had formed a partnership with Mr. Richard Blankenburg, of Arroyo Grande, to manage the local newspapers in those 2 towns. Bee sold advertising for the business. Their youngest child, daughter "Rocki", was born in Lincoln.

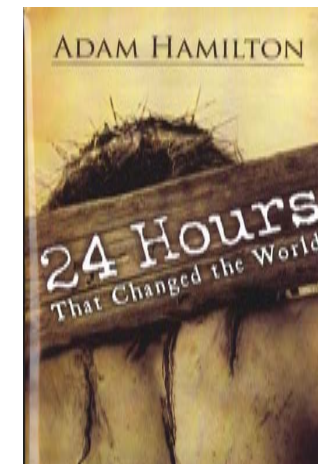
In 1960 they accepted the opportunity to move to Arroyo Grande so Bob could work with *The Pismo Times*, *Herald Recorder* and *Grover City Press* and Bee continued to sell advertising (with time, all 3 small papers combined into *Times Press Recorder*). Later she worked in the office at Arroyo Grande High School and became good friends with Larry and Pat Wiemers and Sadie and Jim Krovious. The family joined our church and Bee and Bob led the Methodist Youth Fellowship, plus taught Junior High and Adult Sunday School classes. She and Bob helped in the construction of the present day sanctuary building and became good friends with the Sloans, Paulsens, Gallops and Ballaghs plus Reverend Kenneth Criswell, the Pastor at that time.

Bob sold the newspaper partnership and started a new career in real estate sales. Bee left the school office in 1974 and took qualifying courses for real estate agent so she could join Bob in the business for several years.

They retired in 1984 and became avid golfers (Bee has a hole-in-one to her credit) and enjoyed traveling to Mexico, Panama Canal, the Caribbean and especially a favorite area, the historic Motherlode Gold Country in California. Bee did many of the paintings she displays on the walls of her comfortable home. Bob obviously had exceptional talent in carpentry and built a handsome, full sized china and linen cabinet including stylish glass doors, that complements the decor of the large living room with interesting views of the countryside.

Her husband Bob passed away in 1998, son Rob retired from teaching in local schools, son Randy retired from general contracting and daughter Rocki has a 25+ year career in pharmaceutical industry at San Diego. Bee keeps close contact with her family, including 6 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. She volunteers with *The Food Bank* and helps prepare the *Cast-A-Net* for distribution. She has served with *Circles* and *UMW* activities. It is very common to see her working at church tending to small details that need attention to keep things orderly and neat. She sets a fine example serving as a Sunday Morning Greeter with her warm, friendly manner as the congregation and guests arrive for the service. She has many loyal friends in our congregation who cherish her company and devotion.

Join us in the McMillen Room, here at UMC of AG, for the **Pastor's Wednesday Study at 2 PM or 6 PM**. This is a special time to review the work of the cross.



14 March marks the beginning of Daylight Savings Time.

Be sure to set your clocks forward before bed on Saturday, 13 March.

We want to see your smile in church on Sunday!

The Mousetrap Story *author unknown*

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. "What food might this contain?" The mouse wondered. He was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap.

Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed this warning: "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

The pig sympathized, but said, "I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers."

The mouse turned to the cow and said, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" To which the cow replied, "Wow, Mr. Mouse, I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap...Alone.

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house -- the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it. It was a venomous snake whose tail was caught in the trap.

The snake bit the farmer's wife as she struggled with the trap. Then, of course, farmer rushed her to the hospital.

When she returned home she still had a fever. Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup. So the farmer took his hatchet to the farm yard for the soup's main ingredient.

But his wife's sickness continued.

Friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig.

But, alas, the farmer's wife did not get well.... She died. So many people came for her funeral that the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them for the funeral luncheon.

And the mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness. So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and you think it doesn't concern you, think again!

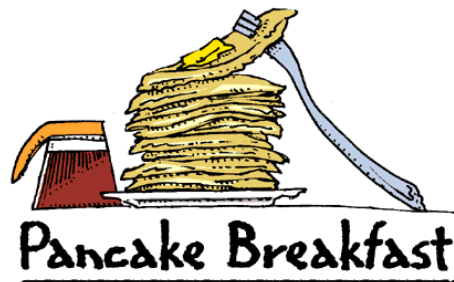
★ EXTRA! EXTRA! ★

Men's News

UNITED METHODIST
MEN

"Helping men to grow in Christ, so others can know Christ."

Our UMM generally meet on the third Saturday of each month at the **Mission Inn of Pismo Beach** at **8:30 AM** for prayer, breakfast, and discussion of topics pertinent to our community and the world. Check your bulletins or monthly newsletter for scheduled events and/or changes.



Pancake Breakfast

UMM will host an **All-Church UMM Pancake Breakfast** **March 21st** after services in Criswell Hall.

Come hungry and bring a friend!

WEATHER WISDOM AT MARCH 20 MEETING

We can't do much about the weather, but we will have a chance to learn more about weather and energy at the March 20th meeting of the United Methodist Men. John Lindsey, media relations representative and Marine Meteorologist for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, will give a slide presentation on Central Coast weather, where our electricity comes from and the Diablo Canyon power plant. Lindsey is a local weather expert and has lived along the Central Coast for more than 23 years. Everyone is invited to this Saturday breakfast meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Mission Inn, 601 James Way (4th Street /James Way intersection) in Pismo Beach.

PREPARE FOR TAKEOFF

We will be visiting the Santa Maria Museum of Flight for our April 17th meeting. For those who wish to carpool, we will leave the church at 10:00 a.m. The museum is located at 3015 Airpark Drive in Santa Maria. After arriving at about 10:45 a.m., we will have a guided tour, view vintage aircraft on display for General Aviation Day, and have lunch, all for \$10 per person. Guests, including school-age children, are invited. Watch for more details in the April Cast~A~Net and the church bulletin.

GOLFERS, MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The second annual Carl Kliesch Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 8 at the Pismo State Beach Golf Course. Starting time is 8 AM. More details will be in the April Cast~A~Net.

ARROYO GRANDE HISTORY

Historian Jean Hubbard, longtime member of our church and the South County Historical Society, recounted interesting history of the Arroyo Grande area at the January 16th meeting of the UMM. She told of the large Mexican land grants that were used for cattle grazing and then divided into ranches and communities after California became a part of the United States. She painted a colorful picture of early downtown Arroyo Grande, including churches, businesses and founding citizens. It was quite a treat to hear such an authoritative account of our local history.

Submitted by Bill Weitkamp

NEWS FROM THE *ADULT CHRISTIAN* *EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S DESK*

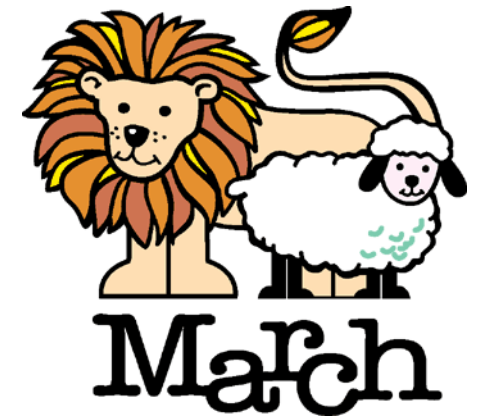
All-Church News

Challenge yourself by bringing your spirit to the Sunday School time between services. Let desire rise up within you for a more personal touch of the Lord in your life as you release your cares to him and await His action which brings resolve. Scripture is truly a lamp unto our feet and it tells us Our King Is Coming!

All Women

You are special! On the third Friday of each month you can find out just how special you are! Come, and by *candlelight*, experience relaxation, peace, and authentic love. Learn more about Jesus' vision of you as His Bride. Join us, beginning at 7 PM until 8:30 PM in the refreshing fragrance of the transformed McMillen Room.

Contact Sandra through the church office for information.



March



Our church & preschool offices will be closed April 2nd for Good Friday. Regular office hours will resume Monday 4/5/10

Welcome Our Newest Member

You all know her—our church secretary Sarah Barber has now officially joined us in our church family. Pictured here with her daughter, Sadie Kyle, the two have lived here for close to 8 years after moving here from the Los Angeles area. Sarah has worked in our office for almost 5 years under both Rev. Bob Underwood and now Rev. David Burgeson.



An Invitation

Do you enjoy reading? Would you like to join a book club? The United Methodist Women are sponsoring a reading program and invite you to participate.

The purpose of the Reading Program is to encourage us:

1. to expand understanding of and participation in God's mission;
2. to increase sensitivity to all human beings—their needs, interests, and concerns;
3. to encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today;
4. to grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life;
5. to enhance self-knowledge and to act from that knowledge;
6. to strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

The UMW Women's Division recommends a diverse range of books with the intention of broadening exposure to a variety of concepts. Books are selected from four categories: Education for Mission; Nurturing for community; Social Action; and Spiritual Growth.

For more information or a book list, please contact Patti Mel-sheimer through the church office.



It's The Little Things That Count!

by Jerry Smith

We have learned from experience that little things not managed properly can develop into big things and then become unmanageable. The premise here is whatever we want to accomplish we must carefully plan for and care about productive results while sustaining the growth of the UMC in Arroyo Grande and around the world.

No matter how or where they serve Jesus Christ, United Methodists do God's work in a unique structure—referred to as “the connection.” This concept has been central to Methodism from its beginning. *Connectionalism* comes to life through our clergy appointment system, our mission and outreach, and through our collective giving.

ON THE HOMEFRONT

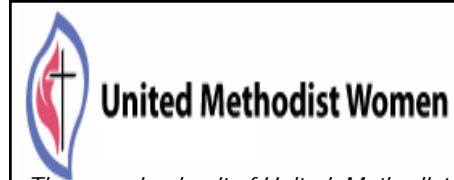
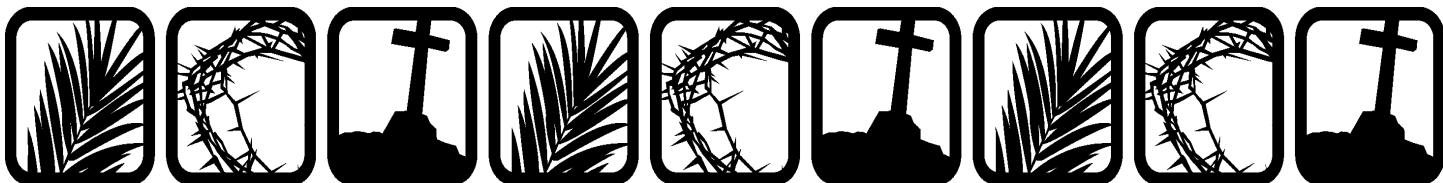
VISITORS: A big concern for any church is how visitors are received and treated when they first arrive at the church. Are the greeters and ushers aware of their first time visitor status? Are they alone or being accompanied by a regular church member who may be lagging behind? If they are with a guide/friend has the regular member alerted the greeter and ushers that they brought along a first time visitor?

FELLOWSHIP: In both services its customary to have all church members and visitors stand-up and greet one another. This procedure is a great way to bring people together and allows the smaller early service congregation to get up, move around the aisles, and interact with each other. And for those who wear name tags it gives an opportunity to be recognized with face and name. I know how much I appreciate a name tag and a person's face to help me remember them.

DISTRACTION: Caution, it's so easy to become distracted in a group setting and when exchanging greetings with each other you may overlook someone standing very close by. After which that close by person could feel snubbed and goes away thinking why are they being treated differently.

WHO WE ARE: Let us not forget who we are as a congregation in the United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande. We are truly a proud group of Christians that believe it's part of our charge as Disciples of Jesus Christ to stay connected and not overlook or forsake any member or visitor that enters our church for any reason. It's been said: “The church is a place to share my spiritual journey with others and hopefully encourage them in their own walk. Just as my church family ministers to me in my times of joy and grief, I too can minister to others. Perhaps I can encourage someone who is searching for God and having difficulty finding Him. I can weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who are rejoicing.”

(In closing, I want to remember the recent passing of Wendell Curry. He was a true Christian who never wavered with his calm and friendly demeanor. We will miss you, Wendell.)



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.



- **Esther Circle—March 11th**
- **JOY Circle—March 16th**
- **Mary Martha—March 17th**

Esther Circle meets the second Thursday of each month at **noon** in the **McMillen Room**. They are starting a study on the book, *Faith and Food* by Wendy Whiteside. This book discusses how faith is nurtured, strengthened and enhanced by food. It is also about all the ways food touches our lives.

JOY Circle meets on the third Tuesday of each month at **7 PM** at a **member's home**. Call the church office for the name and address of whose house the meeting will be held. These ladies are finishing the study on the Trevor Hudson book entitled, *Questions God Asks Us*.

Mary-Martha Circle meets on the third Wednesday of each month at **9:30 AM** in the **McMillen Room** of our church. They will also study, *Faith and Food* by Wendy Whiteside.

NEWS & Notes

Look for the new 2010 UMW directory available now.

Congrats to the new officers!

In this issue of the *Cast-A Net* we will focus on **JOY Circle**, the “youngest” of the three Women's Circles. It was first conceived in the early 1970's when members were unable to attend our other circles because of work conflicts or time schedules. All circles meet monthly however, only JOY Circle meets in the evening.

Martha Townsend created the acronym “JOY” for **J**esus; first, **O**thers; second and **Y**ourself; last. The small group of “Charter Members” included Martha Townsend, Irene Way, Marilyn Nairn, Peg Gallop, Hazel Hubbard and Jane Johnson.

Today, the group averages 25 members who follow the same core routines and principles as in the early days. We continue to: **#1** promote and organize fund raising for local and world missions, **#2** regularly hold religious studies, and **#3** enjoy the fellowship time with our members. The meetings offer the opportunity to learn more about Jesus, how to help others in need and strengthen our friendships with fellow sisters in the church.

The three Circles have developed new plans including, sponsoring at least three Luncheons, open to church members and the public, during 2010 to follow second Sunday service. They are already proceeding with preparations and working hard for their successful Fall Holiday Boutique.

The ladies of JOY Circle also contributed to Health and Layette Kits for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) to distribute following the recent earthquake devastation in Haiti. It really is a “joy” to be a member of **JOY Circle!**

Respectfully submitted by Ann Williamson



UMM Annual Sweetheart Breakfast



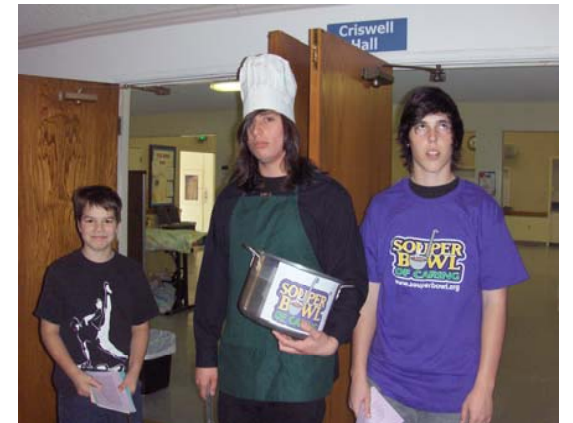
UM Youth NEWS

Soup-er Bowl of Caring

A big **THANK YOU** to the whole congregation for helping us with our recent Souper Bowl Sunday food drive. With your support we were able to donate 358 non perishable food items to the Five Cities Christian Women's Food Bank. We also raised \$103, by selling cans of food to those who forgot to bring a donation. This money will go to supporting Blandy, the Compassion International child that child we support in Guatemala. Many thanks to Tom Egan, Virginia Mothes, and David Beaman for helping to get the food to the food bank.

By the time of this printing, everybody should still be stuffed from the annual "Spud-tacular" event. Thanks to all of you who came supported our youth group. (See photos below).

Due to the Station Fire, the youth will not be able to attend camp at Colby this year. Junior and Senior High Camp for Santa Barbara District will be held in Wrightwood (The Lazy W) beginning on July 4. Any youth in grades 6th through 12th interested in attending, can contact Mike or Linda or the church office for information regarding camp.



Spud-tacular

