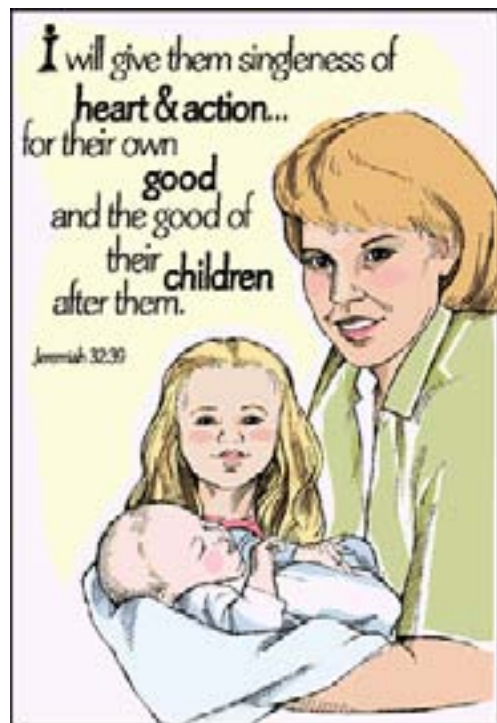


First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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Insert

▪ AG UM CC Chronicle

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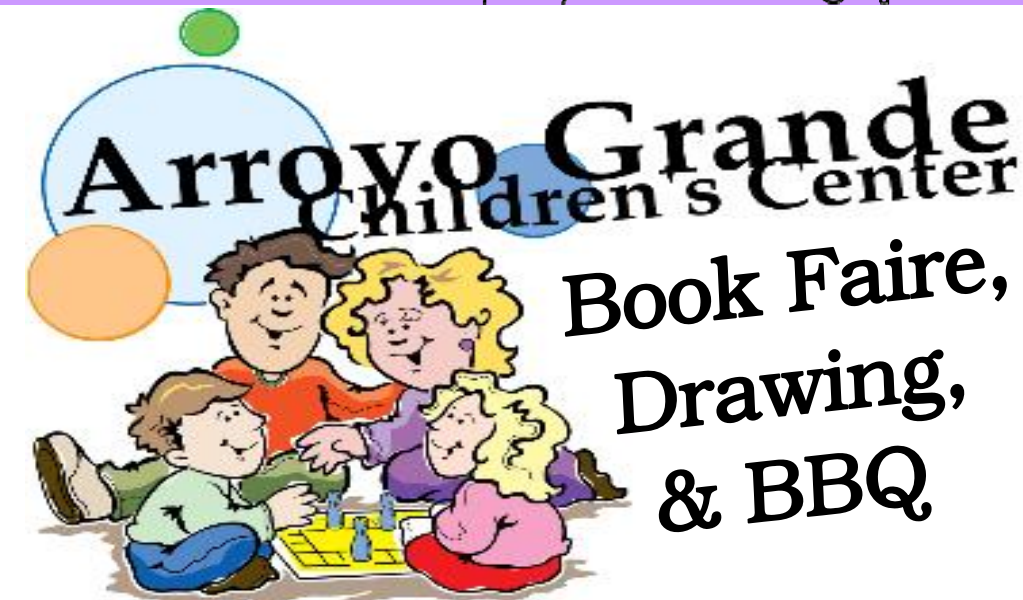
PLEASE NOTE: Layout Editor reserves the right to cut/edit articles to meet space limitations.

To add a friend, edit an address or to be removed from our mailing list, please notify our church office at (805) 481-2692, by fax at 481-26936, or via e-mail at fumcag@sbcglobal.net.

Our newsletter is available online at worshipweekly.com

The First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande
Cast~A~Net
May 2011

"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



Sunday, May 22, 2011

11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Half-Chicken BBQ Lunch

\$10 pre-purchased & \$12 at the door

Dine-In & Take-Out Available

Special Guest

California Highway Patrol

featuring

Drive-Thru Car Seat Safety Check

12 PM - 2 PM

For more information contact our Children's Center Office at 481-2223

or visit our website at www.worshipweekly.com

Proceeds benefit the Arroyo Grande UM Children's Center



Visit our website at worshipweekly.com

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Minister of Visitation:
Rev. J. Harold Headrick

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Don McGuire

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Dennis Eiler

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Mike Coho

Puppet People:
Mike Herber

Adult Christian Education: open

UM Youth Directors:
Mike & Linda Herber

Children's Ministry Director:
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Bishop:
Mary Ann Swenson

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Rev. Cathleen Coots

AG UM Children's Center

agumcc@sbcglobal.net
(805) 481-2223

Director: Madrigal Quaglino





Pastor David Burgeson



This month church growth principle number four- TRANSITIONS ARE WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY. People who do not have a church home are not equally receptive to becoming Christians or members of our church. People move back and forth today, throughout their life on a "Receptivity-Resistance Axis." It is much different than most of us are used to, primarily from how we grew up. But as the song says, "time, they are a-changing."

Jesus spoke of this principle in telling us to turn our eyes to the fields that are, white under harvest" (John 4:35), to plant the seed of the gospel in good receptive soil (Matthew 13:1-9), to preach in towns that are receptive, and leave the ones that aren't. (Luke 9:1-6). How do we identify people who are receptive? Life-transition events are an important way because changes that affect us in personal lifestyle have the potential to move us toward spiritual receptivity.

Some of the events are controlled, such as marriage, divorce, relocation, and retirement; but there are also uncontrolled events such as death of a spouse, medical crisis, and job loss.

I lift these before us because I want to encourage all of us to be aware of the life transitions that are happening around us in our social network, and respond with genuine love.

In ministry together,
David

Let me encourage you to take a look at our church and answer the question, how are we doing in providing unconditional love with people going through controlled and uncontrolled events? Is there something we as a church might do better?

Be sure to fill out your proper forms for the Trustees to approve your event. Your event will be considered tentative and the slot filled with another event without this paperwork. This will also ensure that publications contain correct information.
~Thanks!



Adult Christian Education Director Position Open

- Help plan & coordinate the adult ministry programs of UMC of AG.
- Assess needs of adults in the church/community.

A full job description is available in our church office and on our website.



- Hilary Henderson 5/2
- Susan Coho 5/3
- Janice Smith 5/6
- Wil Cawelti 5/8
- Glen Hughes 5/9
- Richard Walters, Jr. 5/10
- Marian Balster 5/11
- Jim David 5/11
- Bryan Trujillo 5/12
- Matt Regusci 5/12
- Heidi Carpentier 5/13
- Doris Douglas 5/16
- Mara Spalding 5/17
- Vinnie Paredes 5/18
- Charlie Sloan 5/18
- Mike Herber 5/20
- Bill Awalt 5/21
- Raul V. Castillo 5/22
- Ann Williamson 5/22
- Paul Jacob 5/22
- Lesley Riley 5/23
- Mary Patterson 5/27
- Jennifer Beckman 5/29
- Vel Lowry 5/29



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

Go b-a-a-a-ck in time!

Bring the whole flock to **Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid!** You and your family can travel back into Bible times—without setting foot outside of the Five Cities!

Experience this fun, hands-on Bible-times village at the **First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande.**

Each day, your family will become a part of history as they see, hear, touch and even taste what it was like in Jesus' hometown!

You'll explore authentic marketplace shops, visit Jesus' mom, Mary, take part in games, dance to lively Bible songs, and sample tasty tidbits as you discover more about Jesus' childhood.

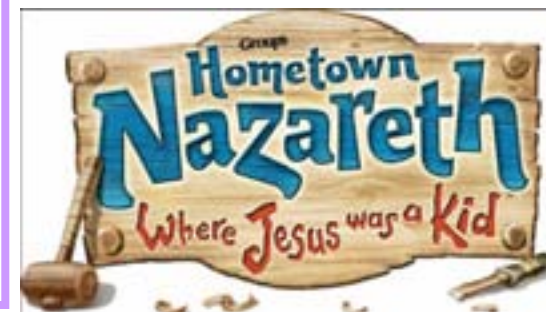
Experiences like this, make God's Word come alive with new meaning for all who participate!

SO we invite you to mark your calendars for **June 20-25.** The adventure begins at **6 PM** and will end at **8 PM**—(with dinner served at 5:30 PM)

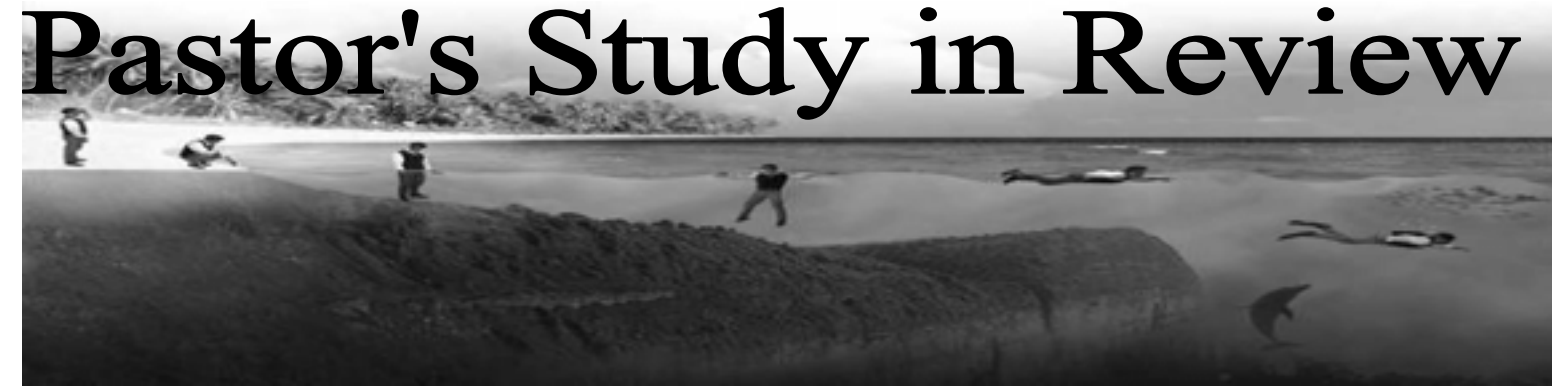
The journey is \$15 per person (includes dinner) with a \$40 max. per family. This week is designed for Adults and Kids to enjoy—join us! Pre-registration will get you a FREE DVD video memory montage of the weeks events.

To register your family for this awesome Bible adventure, **call 481-2692.**

I look forward to seeing you all!
Sarah Barber
Your Hometown Nazareth Director



	Sunday	8:30 AM	10:30 AM	Nursery	Kids/Youth	Teachers	TOTAL
First Sunday		39	116	4	13/2	6	183
Second Sunday		42	141	3	12/in service	4	202
Third Sunday		45	177	6	17/9	6	260
Fourth Sunday		82	218	4	35/in service	6	351



In last month's installment of this series, we learned that the ocean diagram translates into a process, a discipleship pathway, that can be implemented in the local church. This Pathway is a template that establishes a sequential order of primary ministries that helps people grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

There are four segments in this Pathway: 1) Invitational 2) Instructional 3) Relational and 4) Servant. This month we look at the Invitational Discipleship, which is directed toward reaching un-churched folks and people who are curious about God (depicted in the ocean diagram as people on the beach and shoreline). Invitational Discipleship means the people of the church extend invitations to their un-churched friends and family to come to church. In this "Come And See" experience, the person invited is initially coming to the church because of their relationship with an "old trusted friend" or family member.

When they attend, they are received as welcome, expected guests for whom the church has prepared itself. The acid test of this "Come and See" experience is whether or not the regular church attendee will stake their personal reputation on the quality of the worship at their church and actually invite their un-churched friends. The widest point of entry into any church is Sunday worship. The effectiveness of Invitational Discipleship can be measured by simply counting the number of first time visitors in a Sunday worship service. The Institute for Religion Research states that "Mega-churches grow because excited attendees tell their friends"

The most important elements in any worship service are: preaching and music. Invitational Discipleship seeks to offer relevant worship that is unique, exciting, and unexpected, without distractions. Other key areas are: hospitality, skillfully trained greeters and ushers, interior and exterior building cleanliness-up keep, nursery and children's Sunday school staffing and safeguards, well presented, good tasting refreshments, clear, visible signage, accurate bulletins and announcements and ample parking.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, the overall goal of Invitational Discipleship is to provide an authentic, excellent worship experience for a person from the time they enter the church area until they leave.

Orientation is the second part of Invitational Discipleship. The objective of orientation is to provide a clear, simple entry point for the curious person who needs to see a bigger picture of the journey ahead before moving forward. It consists of extending repeated invitations, making connection easy i.e., providing childcare, and an easily accessible meeting area, recruiting a host or hostess, using the best serving ware, providing top notch refreshments, having the pastor give a brief presentation about the ministry of the church and finally giving out well designed welcome packets that provide correct, current church information.

Orientation provides a bridge to the second discipleship pathway step: Instructional Discipleship. We will look at "Instructional Discipleship" in Part IV of this series, in next month's June Cast-A-Net.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Coffee Hour Host- Staff-Parish Relations Committee 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service and UM Youth Group *Children's Sunday School at both services 11:45 AM Green Umbrella (MMR) 4 PM Choir Cluster Festival at UMC of Atascadero	2 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	3 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 7 PM Trustees (MMR)	4 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM EOC Sr. Health Screen. (N/L) 9:30 AM UMW Steering Committee (MMR) 11 AM Blue Umbrella (MMR) 5 PM Wednesday Night Supper (CH) 5:45 PM Kids Night Out (S) 6 PM Pastor's Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	5 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen <i>leave to serve</i> 5 PM Grande Ringers 5 PM Bible Reading (S)	6 8:30 AM Friday AM Bible Study (L) 3:30 PM AG UM CC Closed 4 PM AG UM CC Staff Development (MMR) 6 PM Mankins/Blackburn Rehearsal (S)	7 2 PM Mankins/Blackburn Wedding (S)
8 Coffee Hour Host- JOY Circle 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service and UM Youth Group *Children's Sunday School at both services Hanny Mother's Day 	9 9:30 AM Mary-Martha Circle (MMR) 11 AM 5 Cities Christian Women (CH) 5 PM Champion Youth Outreach Self-defense (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	10 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10:30 AM Communications Meeting (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers	11 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 5 PM Wednesday Night Supper (CH) 5:45 PM Kids Night Out (S) 6 PM Pastor's Study (MMR) 1 PM Alzheimer's Care-Givers Support Group (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	12 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 10 AM Rummage Sale benefiting School Kits (CH) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen 12 PM AG UM CC Staff Appreciation (JMMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 5 PM Bible Reading (S)	13 8:30 AM Friday AM Bible Study (L) 9 AM Rummage Sale benefiting School Kits (CH)	14 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearse (S) 9 AM Rummage Sale benefiting School Kits (CH)
15 Coffee Hour Host UMM Pancake Breakfast 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service and UM Youth Group *Children's Sunday School at both services 	16 5 PM Champion Youth Outreach Self-defense (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)	17 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6 PM AG MS Support Group (MMR)	18 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 5 PM Wednesday Night Supper (CH) 5:45 PM Kids Night Out (S) 6 PM Pastor's Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	19 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 5 PM Bible Reading (S) 6:30 PM WOW—LOL (MMR) 7 PM Finance (MMR)	20 8:30 AM Friday AM Bible Study (L) 1 PM Alzheimer's Care-Givers Support Group (CH)	21 9 AM UMM Annual Carl Kliesch Golf Tournament
22 Coffee Hour Host AG UM CC Spring BBQ 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service and UM Youth Group 11:45 AM SPRC *Children's Sunday School at	23 5 PM Champion Youth Outreach Self-defense (CH) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	24 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 2 PM Preschool Board closed session (MMR) 3:30 PM Preschool Board -open session (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 7 PM JOY Circle (MMR)	25 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 5 PM Wednesday Night Supper (CH) 6 PM Pastor's Study (MMR) 5:45 PM Kids Night Out (S) 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)	26 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer Group (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers	27 8:30 AM Friday AM Bible Study (L)	28 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearse (S)
29 Coffee Hour Host All-Church Sunday 8:30 AM Gospel Country Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service and UM Youth Group *Children's Sunday School at both services	30 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed 5 PM Champion Youth Outreach Self-defense (CH) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	31 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"> ABBREVIATION LEGEND MMR McMillen Room CH Criswell Hall K Kitchen S Sanctuary N Narthex P/S Pastor's Study L Library </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>			

YELLOW UMBRELLA NEWS

submitted by Judy Atwood

May 8-Native American Ministries Sunday -The Rev. David Dunson

The Rev. David Dunson knows seminary education is crucial to his hopes of growing his congregation's evangelism and outreach efforts. He also knows that without a scholarship, funded by the Native American Ministries Sunday offering, his education would not be possible.

A former medical supplies sales manager, the 50-something Dunson now serves Okmulgee's Newtown United Methodist Church, one of the oldest churches in Oklahoma. He will earn a master's degree from Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Okla., in 2011.

"I've learned (about) other perspectives on faith, ministry and culture," he said. "But I'm also learning ways to bridge the gap between Christianity and our Native history and traditions."

As assistant to a deputy chief of the 70,000-member Muscogee Creek Nation, Dunson responds to many tribal concerns—from troubled families and at-risk youth, to illiteracy and unemployment, to increased substance abuse. Dunson sees his scholarship as "a gift from God, an answered prayer."

He added, "I could have given up this dream because I didn't have the money. Not many of our pastors have gone to seminary. But now I can bring the message of hope through education to encourage my people."

Your gifts on Native American Ministries Sunday fund ministries that pave the way for those who aspire to serve Christ's church by making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Because of your generosity, seminarians prepare to serve, congregations become stronger and communities are transformed.

We will again have our special offering envelopes for your use in the bulletins that Sunday.

HAITI

UMCOR directors approved three grants for Haiti, which together total more than \$638,000. The largest sum, \$300,000, goes to IMA World Health, for a pilot project to establish a decentralized, integrated, community-driven health and development program in the Grand Riviere de Nord/Bahon area, a rural

area far from the capital, Port-au-Prince. Decentralizing health care is a priority of the Haitian government since the January 2010 earthquake drove many survivors from the capital. "It is important to create a system of medical access and referral—to bring health care to the people where they are," Crutchfield said. Doctor Cherian Thomas, who heads up UMCOR's Health unit, said, "Even if there had been no earthquake, this would still be a good model for an impoverished country such as Haiti. The earthquake only makes it more imperative." UMCOR is supporting a second community-based health program in Leogane, this one led by partner Global Health Action (GHA) as well as a scholarship program to support 12 college students in their studies. UMCOR will sponsor a health meeting in Port-au-Prince in early May, bringing together partners in the field with the aim to develop a long-term health strategy in post-earthquake Haiti. At the board meeting, directors also approved the release of up to \$1.2 million dollars for repairs to New College Bird, a highly regarded Methodist school that suffered damage to a number of its buildings. Some of the buildings are national historic sites and will need to be repaired or strengthened according to their original architectural plans. New structures will also be built to replace buildings that were destroyed in the earthquake.

JAPAN: UMCOR SENDS RELIEF GRANT

Strong quakes continue to cause damage in Japan one month after a 9.0-magnitude earthquake unleashed a terrifying tsunami and the threat of a nuclear emergency. At least three major aftershocks rocked the country between April 7 and April 12, ranging in magnitude from 6.0 to 7.1. The other two came as the Japanese government, concerned for the population's long-term exposure to radiation, announced it would increase the severity level to 7, on a par with the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear event, and widen the evacuation zone surrounding the damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. UMCOR continues to work with partners in Japan to respond to this massive and ongoing emergency. Your gift to Japan Emergency, UMCOR Advance #3021317, supports these efforts.

Continued YELLOW, page 8



Mondays at 7 PM in

Youth Lounge (room 215)
The men are currently studying the books of Hosea and Amos from the Holy Bible. Open to all men of God!



Fridays at 8:30 AM

in the church Library.
No time like the present—we are starting a new study on John 13-15. This is a perfect time to join us. See you there!



This UMW supported group is open to all the women of our church and our community.

We meet in the **McMillen Room** at UMC of AG every **3rd Thursday** of the month at **6:30 PM**. We invite you to join us and share in what God has done, and is still doing, in your life. We support one another in loving accountability and with God's grace according to the Scriptures.



This non-denominational women's group meets on **Mondays at 7 PM** 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. Contact *Susan Coho* through the church office if you have any questions.



Through the Bible in a year

This is an **All-Church Challenge!** Grab a Bible Reading Schedule from the Narthex - join in reading God's Word in one year.



Need Prayer? Got Praise?

Bring it to our Prayer Chain.

Contact **Pauline Castillo** and she will set the chain in motion.

REQUESTS CAN REMAIN ANONYMOUS

Every **Thursday at 10AM**, a dedicated group of prayer warriors, we call our **Intercessory Prayer Group**, meet in the Library to pray for members of our church family and the community as they lift up requests given to our prayer chain, those mentioned in worship, or on request cards.

WHAT'S UP ON WEDNESDAYS?

- 8:30 AM Sr. Exercise Group
- 5:00 PM Wednesday Night Church Supper
- 5:45 PM Kids Night Out
- 6:00 PM Pastor's Study
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir UM Youth

NEW ON THURSDAYS

BIBLE READING

Every Thursday—rain or shine—we will meet in the Sanctuary and continue reading the Bible aloud from 5—6 PM. We pray that you will join us in this time to bless the Lord and read His Word.

Your **word is a lamp** to my feet
And a light to my path.
—Psalm 119:105



Contemporary Worship Service at 8:30 AM communion is observed each Sunday as part of regular worship.

Traditional Worship Service at 10:30 AM observes this Sacrament on the first Sunday of each month.





Hey kids! We are so proud of your great singing on Easter Sunday—you all sounded GREAT! Thank you Sadie Barber for your beautiful solo at the 8:30 AM service. Did you know that more than 30 of you sang on Easter Sunday? WOW-glad to see you all each week! Be sure to come to Kid's Night Out -we will be studying about the *Armor of God*, *the Fruit of the Spirit* and about *discipleship* (being a follower of Christ).



Our mother's instructions

God gives us parents to help us learn about following his ways. Cherishing our mothers means valuing their guidance.

Use the boxed word codes below to complete Proverbs 6:20-22, NIV.

walk speak fathers sleep keep always
guide awake son forsake teaching
around heart neck mothers fasten watch

"My [] [] your [] [] [] [] command
and do not [] [] [] your [] [] [] [] [].
Bind them [] [] [] on your [] [] [];
[] [] [] them [] [] [] your [] [] [].
When you [] [] [], they will [] [] [] you;
when you [] [] [], they will [] [] [] over you;
when you [] [] [], they will [] [] [] to you."

Proverbs 6:20-22, NIV

Answers: "My son, keep your fathers' command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you."
Proverbs 6:20-22, NIV

Puzzle BROOCH

Make this keepsake to let your mom, grandma or aunt know that you wouldn't be complete without her!

What you need:

- Several old puzzle pieces
- Acrylic paints
- Paintbrush
- Craft glue
- Sequins or small buttons
- Metal jewelry safety pin (flat on the bottom)

What you do:

1. Paint the puzzle pieces and let them dry.
2. Come up with a design; for example, place two pieces on the bottom and one on top.
3. Glue the pieces in place so they form one brooch. Decorate by gluing on sequins or buttons.
4. When the brooch is completely dry, glue a jewelry safety pin on the bottom.
5. Give the gift on Mother's Day!



God's Grace & A Bird Cage

There once was a man named George Thomas, pastor in a small New England town. One Easter Sunday morning he came to the Church carrying a rusty, bent, old bird cage, and set it by the pulpit. Eyebrows were raised and Pastor Thomas began to speak.

"I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright.

I stopped the lad and asked, "What do you have there, son?"

"Just some old birds," came the reply.

"What are you going to do with them?" I asked.

"Take 'em home and have fun with 'em," he answered. "I'm gonna tease 'em and pull out their feathers to make 'em fight. I'm gonna have a real good time."

"But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do then?"

"Oh, I got some cats," said the little boy. "They like birds. I'll take 'em to them."

The pastor was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?"

"Huh?! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing. They ain't even pretty!"

"How much?" the pastor asked again.

The boy sized up the pastor as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?"

The pastor reached in his pocket and took out a ten dollar bill. He placed it in the boy's hand. In

a flash, the boy was gone. The pastor picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the birds out, setting them free. Well, that explained the empty bird cage on the pulpit, and then the pastor began to tell this story:

One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting. "Yes, sir, I just caught a world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!"

"What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked.

Satan replied, "Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other, how to hate and abuse each other, how to drink and smoke and curse. I'm gonna teach them how to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

"And what will you do when you are done with them?"

Jesus asked. "Oh, I'll kill 'em," Satan glared proudly.

"How much do you want for them?" Jesus asked.

"Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you'll take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you. You don't want those people!!"

"How much? He asked again.

Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your blood, tears and your life."

Jesus said, "DONE!" Then He paid the price.

The pastor picked up the cage and walked from the pulpit.

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

Tom Egan Receives UMM Man of the Year



One can visit the church just about any time and find Tom Egan cheerfully tending to the many duties required to keep the buildings and yard maintained. First as a member and now as chairman of the board of trustees, Tom has been involved in just about every church project that has been completed, repaired or cleaned up. He also volunteered many hours in building the new cabin at the Methodist camp in Arroyo Grande. In addition, he has been co-chairman of the United Methodist Men for the last two years and has been reelected as chairman for the 2011-2012

year. In a belated show of gratitude for his service Tom was presented the UMM 2010 Man of the Year Award at the Sweetheart Breakfast on February 12 (we missed giving this award last year). Congratulations, Tom.



Church Pancake Breakfast on May 15

Come one and all to the UMM breakfast on Sunday, May 15. For only \$5 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under, a hearty breakfast of pancakes, scrambled eggs, fruit, sausage, juice and coffee will be served in Criswell Hall from 8:30 to 10:30.

Red Umbrella Needs Input

The Red Umbrella is responsible for the Worship Programs of the Church. This includes music (Chancel Choir, The Lord's Crew Praise Team, Handbells, etc.), Acolytes, Greeters, Puppets, and Ushers. It also includes elements of the service such as sound, lighting, communion, preaching, and announcements.

We are looking for input from the congregation so that we can continue to find ways to better meet the needs of the congregation during worship. One way we are doing this is with a brief survey, which will be in the Bulletin in the first three weeks in May. We hope you will take the time to fill out the survey and give us your input.

Also, we are looking for people who would like to help in planning and developing our worship services. We hope you will prayerfully consider becoming a member of the Red Umbrella. If you would like more information, please e-mail Sharon Roemer, Red Umbrella Chairperson at roemer.purple@gmail.com. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

~ Kent Unsworth, Red Umbrella Publicity



In a letter forwarded to Chuck & Betty Ashton RE: People's Kitchen

"Dear Chuck and Betty, I got this in the mail today and wanted you to see this comment. You guys are great! 'Hi Nanc, I supervised yesterday [People's Kitchen] for the Methodist Church. What an experience! They are soooo generous with their love, food, and gifts to our guests.'"

**Thank you to the volunteers
who make this possible!**

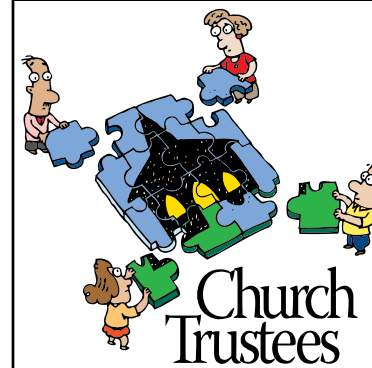
HELL, continued from pg 10

"We need to always balance God's love with God's righteousness and justice," Manskar said. "God's love, which is a synonym for grace, is not cheap. It is a costly grace. It cost God the Father the life of his Son. God spilled God's own blood in order that the world may be saved."

A long-time debate

The debate over who goes to hell stretches back to antiquity, when Christians were still a persecuted minority in the Roman Empire. Origen, a theologian who lived around A.D. 185-254, challenged the idea of eternal punishment. He taught that hell is real but its fire would serve more to purify sinners than to torment them. Ultimately, Origen argued, God will restore all. Contemporaries charged that Origen's universalism would mean even Satan himself would be saved, and church leaders eventually ruled Origen's ideas heretical. Nevertheless, his ideas had a lasting influence on Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant thought.

If you wish to learn more, Google the source
[UMC.Org -- A UMNS Feature By Heather Hahn*]



Tom Egan, Chair

- Our Parsonage Fund has grown to \$164,703. We are within our budget for the first 3 months.
- Two new handicapped parking spaces have been used each Sunday after their installation. I need to find one more "visitor parking" sign.
- We are pricing the 6 foot diameter round tables, in the event that it is within our budget. Think big!
- The new gas valves to the two large ovens have been replaced and they worked fine on the last Thursday.
- Termites are in the Children's Center and need to be treated.
- Nancy Baughman and Jan Treat want to hold a Rummage Sale this month to benefit the kids school kits. Stay tuned.
- The Library door has taken a weather beating and is being restored back to health. It needs more coats of Tom Egan's famous elixir.
- Sometime ago, during someone's haste to move a chair or table from the wall next to the machine that controls the chimes, the plug to the machine became unplugged. This will keep the chimes from working. This time just plugging it back in didn't work. A phone call to our repair company was necessary to bring it back on line. Please be careful with your church.
- Don suggested that wall steps in the choir area be marked with a bright colored tape. This will be done.
- Mike asked if we might need another refrigerator for the People's Kitchen. When they do 14-16 casseroles, it takes up a lot of space. We are looking into this.
- "When are we going to use the bus?" This is a re-occurring question. I need to set up a drug and alcohol testing program for our two drivers. We came close twice but at the end only 3 or 4 women were going on a meeting out of town. We also need more drivers. On Sundays, once we have more drivers, we may be able to work out bringing some people to church. See me if you are interested.
- Over a year ago, we treated the windows in the McMillen Room to prevent the rain from coming in. From the last two or three rains, we now have buckled paint again. More needs to be done on this.



Hellfire, Brimstone and John Wesley

Compiled by Jerry Smith

The debate over hell that has heated up Christian blogs and Facebook pages this spring is almost as old as Christianity itself. And it's a dispute Methodism's founder John Wesley in particular knew well.

"Wesley had some of his fiercest, angriest words for any attempt to limit Christ's saving work," said Bishop William H. Willimon of the [North Alabama Annual \(regional\) Conference](#). "Now obviously, not all those for whom Christ died respond positively to Christ or even know about his saving work. And on that score, Wesley just noted that with sadness. But then what does that mean about their ultimate fate?" Wesley wrestled with that question in his own ministry, and it still makes headlines today.

The Rev. Rob Bell, an evangelical megachurch pastor, has caused a stir with his take on hell in the best-seller "Love Wins." And United Methodist student pastor Chad Holtz received international news coverage when his long Facebook post supporting Bell's book resulted in [his departure from a North Carolina congregation](#).

Both Bell and Holtz dispute the traditional view of hell as a place of eternal torment for billions of condemned souls. As Holtz sees it, God can find a way to bring all the lost into his fold.

Like Holtz and Bell, generations of Christians are haunted by the paradox: How do you reconcile a loving God with the image of billions of souls consigned to spend eternity separated from God's embrace?

"In the biblical testimony, there is infrequent mention of hell, Gehenna, a place of retribution and a place of fire and torment," said Willimon, who is also the author of ["Who Will Be Saved?"](#) "One thing that impresses me is how seldom it is mentioned. There is good reason to say that it is a possibility, but there is no reason to say it is a significant part of following Christ."

Who goes to hell?

Most Americans would tend to agree. Seventy-nine percent of mainline Protestants in the United States believe people not of their faith — including non-Christians — can go to heaven, according to polls collected in the book "American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us." Fifty-four percent of evangelical Protestants take an equally expansive view of heaven, and a staggering 83 percent of Catholics in the United States agree.

The Book of Discipline, The United Methodist Church's law book, does not make specific mention of heaven or hell.

However, the Evangelical United Brethren Church, which joined with the Methodist Church in 1968, states in its Confession of Faith: ["We believe in the resurrection of the dead; the righteous to life eternal and the wicked to endless condemnation."](#)

The Confession is part of The United Methodist Church's doctrinal standards in the Book of Discipline. Church doctrine can only be changed through a constitutional amendment process, which requires approval by a two-thirds majority of General Conference and a three-fourths majority of all annual conference members present and voting.

The Rev. Steve Manskar, the director of Wesleyan leadership at the [United Methodist Board of Discipleship](#), says United Methodists should teach what Scripture and tradition instruct about hell.

"Scripture and tradition teach that hell is real and that it is to be feared," Manskar said. "It also teaches that God's grace is responsible; it is God's free gift of acceptance, forgiveness and healing delivered in the person and work of Jesus Christ." Ultimately, he said, people who reject God's gift of grace send themselves to hell and eternal separation from God.

continued, HELL page 11



United Methodist Women

Faith, Hope and Love In Action

submitted by Carleen Minkler



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.

UMW TOUR

DAVID AND MARGARET YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

METHODIST HOSPITAL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Recently, our UMW unit was invited to join the Santa Barbara District sponsored tour to two special Methodist supported institutions in Southern California.

The David and Margaret Home in La Verne is a National Mission Institution founded in 1910. The original home was established as an orphanage by the Women's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Today, it serves more than 1,200 adolescent girls annually. The campus has ten cottages that can house ten girls each. The admission is limited to girls whose ages range from 11-18 years. The Joan Macy School opened on campus in 1989 and serves not only the residents but other students referred by surrounding school districts. The residents have been rescued off the streets, from abused situations, and drug addiction environments.

The residential goal is to provide a safe, stable, homelike situation where a professional staff can be involved with mental health services and other health needs. There is treatment for children with learning disabilities and a transitional living program for youth. Along with emphasis on education, there is a State of California certified chemical-dependency program directed to recovering residents.

In 1903, the Methodist Hospital of Southern California started out with 5 beds in a two story house in Los Angeles; it was the first hospital to admit an Asian woman. In 1909 the Women's Home Missionary Society of Southern California Conference of the Methodist Church began to raise funds for a new facility. Today, the United Methodist Women pledged \$100,000 to the large, technically advanced hospital now located in Arcadia.

Gladys Paulsen, Carleen Minkler, and Virginia Mothes share their impressions of the facilities:

VIRGINIA: "Our trip to the David and Margaret Home opened my eyes to the great service they offer troubled youth. Although they serve many, if even one young person is saved, it is worth it. Three Foundation members at the Methodist Hospital took us through divergent aspects of the facility. It is a wonderful hospital and we all can and should be proud to be involved in its operation."

GLADYS: "I had no idea what a beautiful setting for the Home. The Staff is doing such a wonderful outreach service. The store on the campus sells donated new items to the public with the proceeds going to help maintain the Home. The intimate chapel in the Methodist Hospital was impressive with all the wall medallions representing many religions."

CARLEEN: "Huge, lovely camphor trees line the entrance to the Home. The green lawn expanse and the tidy cottages give the impression of order and safety. The Hospital by contrast is all technology and professionalism. The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit made us smile at the handmade quilts that cover each specialized crib. Our Mission donations help make these two institutions possible."



Esther Circle
5/12
Mary Martha
5/9
JOY Circle
5/17

Esther Circle meets the **second Thursday** of each month at **noon** in the **McMillen Room**. They have begun their new study on the book *Joy to The World—Mission in the age of Global Christianity*.

Mary-Martha Circle meets on the **second Monday** of each month at **9:30 AM** in the **McMillen Room** of our church. The women are studying the *first Chapter of John*.

JOY Circle meets on the **third Tuesday** of each month at **7 PM** at a member's home. They have completed their serious and thought provoking study on the Sudan and are now studying *Just Choose Happiness*.

Cochran Report More UMC of AG Community Service



Last month I sent in Box Tops and Campbell's Labels. The break down was as follows.

- Box Tops for Education = 841
- Campbell's Labels = 450



I received a nice letter from the Henderson Settlement. They wanted to thank us all for saving the required proof purchases that enabled them to purchase their new vehicle that we mentioned in a previous newsletter. They received the "new mini van on January 4, 2011, a nice shade of blue. Very pretty."

There are three new products added to the list of qualifying products. Please make note of these products:

- BIC products—i.e., pens and pencils
- Pop Secret Popcorn
- Post Cereal (worth 10 points)

The Box Tops are for their neighboring Frakes School. This school has turned in enough Box Tops to earn a total of \$6000.

Let's keep it up and try to beat these amounts next time. Thank you and know that God smiles upon you every time you save, so keep saving and helping those in need.

Thank you—CJ Cochran

Box Tops, Coupons, and Campbell's labels can be brought to the Library every Sunday for CJ to pick up during the week.



Monthly Goal

\$ 22,000

Received

\$ 22,866

Difference

\$ + 866

Statements of giving will now be mailed out semi-annually rather than the quarterly as they were in 2010. If you need to have your statement sooner please contact Tom Egan or Virginia Mothes.



Church Library News

May is the month in which we pay tribute to all mothers. We must not forget Biblical mothers: Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Hannah, Bathsheba—just to name a few. You can learn more about them in a new book recently acquired in the Library entitled, *Every Woman In The Bible* by Sue and Larry Richards. Our thanks to the donor of this valuable volume.

Come and check things out!



Remember Those Who Served

**Our offices will be closed
May 30th for
Memorial Day.
God bless our service
men and women...
past, present, and future!**

YELLOW, continued from pg 4

CHILDREN'S CHALLENGE:

Have you noticed the poster in Criswell Hall of a Mule for the Goat Park on LaGonave, Haiti? The children would appreciate any help you can provide to help with the purchase of the mule to have a way to haul water to the Goat Park. God's creatures also need water and they have to haul the water to them. We can help out with this!

Look for more on the Yellow Umbrella and what we as a church are doing in future issues of the Cast-A-Net. Also be sure to check out our bulletin board in Criswell Hall to learn about our missionaries. You can also get a copy of our covenant missionary Krista Givens' newsletter.

submitted by Patti Melsheimer

Healthy Corner

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Health Facts

Men die at higher rates than women from the top 10 causes of death and are the victims of over 92% of workplace deaths. (BLS)

In 1920, women lived, on average, one year longer than men. Today, men on average, die almost six years earlier than women. (CDC)

Prevention

Women are 100% more likely to visit the doctor for annual examinations and preventive services than men. (CDC 2001)

Cause & Rate	Men	Women
Heart Disease	248.5	162.2
Cancer	220.1	153.6
Injuries	55.2	25.5
Stroke	43.9	42.6
HIV/AIDS	5.9	2.2
Suicide	9.7	2.5

Silent Health Crisis

"There is a silent health crisis in America...it's the fact that, on average, American men live sicker and die younger than American women."



Men as Victims of Homicide

The chance of being a homicide victim places African-American men at unusually high risk. Chance of being a Homicide Victim*
1 in 30 = black males 1 in 179 = white females
1 in 132 = black females 1 in 495 = white females
*BJS Data Report

Depression and Suicide 1

Depression in men is diagnosed contributing to the fact that men are 4x as likely to commit suicide.

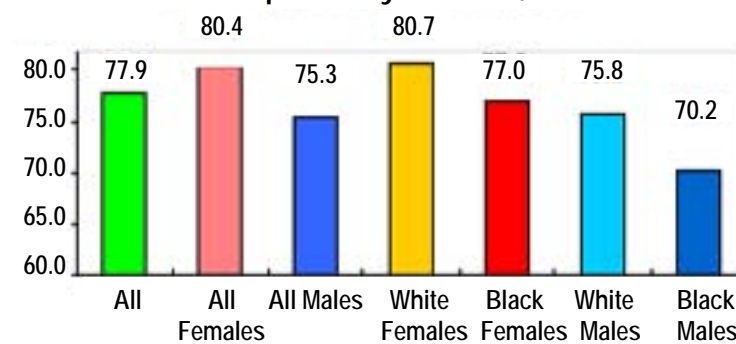
- Among 15 to 19 year olds, boys were 4x as likely than girls to commit suicide.
- Among 20-24 year-olds, males were 6x as likely commit suicide as females.
- The suicide rate for persons age 65 plus: men...28.5; women...3.9.



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Life Expectancy At Birth, 2007²



Who Is The Weaker Sex?

- 115 males are conceived for every 100 females.
- The male fetus is at greater risk of miscarriage and stillbirth.
- 25% more newborn males die than females.
- 3/5 of SIDS victims are male.
- Men suffer hearing loss at 2x the rate of women.
- Testosterone is linked to elevations of LDL (the bad cholesterol) and declines in HDL (the good cholesterol).
- Men have fewer infection-fighting T-cells and are thought to have weaker immune systems than women.
- By the age of 100, women outnumber men by 8 to 1. (NYT Magazine 3-16-03)

To learn more, call:

Men's Health Network
P.O. Box 75972
Washington D.C. 20013

202.543.MHN.1 (6464) x 101
info@menshealthnetwork.org
www.menshealthnetwork.org