

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

Cast~A~Net

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



May and June 2013

For this issue, I have decided to share with you an article entitled, "Seeing God's Presence in a Week of Tragedy," taken from the United Methodist News Report on the UMC.org. *Permission was granted to share the article below.*

Seeing God's Presence in a Week of Tragedy

From shock, fear and anger to mourning, emotions have run the gamut this week as U.S. conferences have dealt with tragedies of many scales.

Throughout the challenges, United Methodists across the connection have told us how they saw God at work even in the most trying moments.

Boston Area Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar of the New England Annual (regional) Conference, said in a letter to the conference after the Boston Marathon bombings that the "outpouring of love and support from friends and colleagues in our United Methodist connection has been overwhelming and wonderful."

As the events in Boston continued to hold the city in their grip at week's end, he offered a prayer for all. "Let us continue to be in deep prayer for God's grace, peace, justice and love to prevail, everywhere in our neighborhoods, towns and villages, cities, nations and the world," he said.

Bishop Mike Lowry of the Central Texas Conference, which includes the town of West, noted in a blog: "Collectively this has been a hard week. News of the tragic terrorist bombing at the Boston Marathon was joined (on April 17) by the massive explosion here at home in West, Texas. While Boston may be distant, we still reach out instinctively with our prayer and our care. The town of West is in the heart of our conference. This tragedy is close to home and touches our lives much more intimately. Here, too, we reach out with the love and care of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The Rev. Lisa Caine, pastor of Oconee Street United Methodist Church in Athens, Ga., reflected on the loss of the church's building in a fire this week. "The building may be gone, but our ministry and mission are alive and well, and we go forward trusting in God's goodness and the future that awaits us," she wrote. "We are assured by the words of Isaiah 41:10, 'Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help

you; I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.'"

At an interfaith service Thursday in Boston, President Barack Obama said, "Scripture tells us to 'run with endurance the race that's set before us'" and noted that, "We will all be with you as you learn to stand and walk and, yes, run again. Of that I have no doubt. You will run again. You will run again!"

Bishop Gary Mueller of the Arkansas Conference wrote Thursday on Facebook:

"It's been a week of tragedies. Some — like the Boston Marathon bombing — have been intentional in order to bring death, chaos and fear. Others — like the explosion of the fertilizer plant in West, Texas — may have been caused by human error, but people would have done anything to stop it if only they had known.

"Still others — like the storms in Oklahoma last evening — are simply and sadly the results of humanity being in the path of nature. And, then, there are the countless daily personal tragedies — like the death of children from starvation, sexual abuse, addiction, the breakup of families and terrible illnesses — that never make the news.

"When any tragedy strikes, you probably ask, 'God, where are you in all of this?' Although some people may argue that God is responsible because God allows it to happen, God's not responsible for any tragedy. God's not punishing sinful people. God's not concocting some large-scale teachable moment. God's not instigating suffering to bring about some greater good.

"But just because God's not responsible does not mean that God is not present. Because God is. Fully present. Personally present. Actively present. And this God is inviting you to experience God's transforming love in the most unexpected ways as love defeats hate, hope replaces despair, healing occurs in the midst of brokenness and life emerges out of the ashes of death."

Where have you seen God this week?



Finance Update

This year we are moving our annual Pledge Drive and budgeting from November to May. The Finance committee is moving the Pledge Drive to May to avoid having it overlap with the Thanksgiving and Christmas Offerings. We hope you will respond generously when we do not have multiple funding appeals in a short period of time. We also want to avoid trying to do budgeting during the hectic holiday season, when the Church and Church members have many other activities going on. On Sunday, May 19, you will be asked to make a new Estimate of Giving for the next 12 months. This will replace the Estimate of Giving you made late last year. Please consider the many activities and ministries of the Church that need your support when making your new Estimate of Giving.

Thank you for your continued support.

Grace and Peace,

Joel Anderson



**IS YOUR PLEDGE
UP TO DATE?**

The Easter offering and generous giving in March erased the deficit we accumulated in January and February. Expenses continue approximately at plan. I expect the year to continue to be challenging financially, and encourage everyone to continue their generous giving. I also ask Team Chairs to watch their expenses carefully, avoiding or delaying expenses when possible. We **have not** yet needed to access the emergency \$10,000 line-of-credit from the Endowment Board, and I hope that with your continued generous contributions, that we will be able get through the year without using it.

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

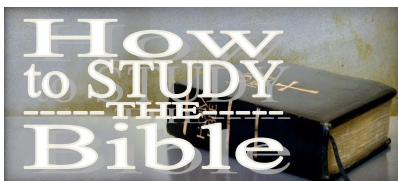
JANUARY - MARCH 2013

INCOME	***** MARCH YEAR TO DATE *****			
	Actual	Budget	Diff.	%
4001- Stewardship Budget				
4010 - Pledges	\$70,979	\$67,440	\$3,539	105.2%
4020 - Loose Offering	\$1,720	\$2,751	-\$1,031	62.5%
4030-60 - Special Offerings	\$2,303	\$2,114	\$189	108.9%
Total 4001 - Stewardship	\$75,002	\$72,305	\$2,697	103.7%
4003 - Other Income				
4313 - Preschool Facility Use	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	100.0%
4310-4330 Other Income	\$1,217	\$1,374	-\$157	88.6%
Total 4300 - Other Income	\$2,717	\$2,874	-\$157	94.5%
Total Income	\$77,719	\$75,179	\$2,540	103.4%
EXPENSE				
1000 - Local Ministry				
Total 1110 - Communications	\$115	\$138	-\$23	83.3%
Total 1200 - Membership Care	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Total 1300 - Christian Ed. Team	\$894	\$863	\$31	103.6%
Total 1500 - Worship Team	\$750	\$1,171	-\$421	64.0%
Total 1600 - Mission Team	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Total 1760 - Pastor	\$22,045	\$23,283	-\$1,238	94.7%
1960 Annual Conference Delegation	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Total 1000 - Local Ministry	\$23,804	\$25,455	-\$1,651	93.5%
Total 2000 Apportionment & Quotas	\$10,193	\$10,193	\$0	100.0%
3000 - Operations				
Total 3300 - Board of Trustees	\$12,710	\$11,902	\$808	106.8%
Total 3500 - Finance Committee	\$0	\$103	-\$103	0.0%
Total 3600 - Church Office	\$4,524	\$3,384	\$1,140	133.7%
Total Staff Benefits	\$2,888	\$2,831	\$57	102.0%
Total Staff Salaries	\$23,287	\$22,874	\$413	101.8%
Total 3000 Operations	\$43,409	\$41,094	\$2,315	105.6%
Total Expenses	\$77,406	\$76,742	\$664	100.9%
Net Surplus	\$313	-\$1,563		



Sundays - 9:50 AM

Come, take the message a little further in the McMillen Room (MMR).



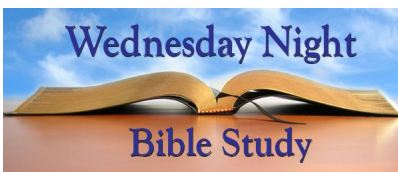
Sundays - 6 PM

Take part in this ongoing look of the scriptures with Mike Herber in the McMillen Room.



Mondays - 7 PM

We welcome all men for prayer & study (room 215).



Adults - 6 PM

Kids Night Out - 6 PM

Youth Group - 7 PM

(See schedule at right)

FREE Fellowship Meal at 5:15 PM



Fridays - 8:30 AM

Join us in the Library for Bible study, discussion, coffee, & friends!



Dates	Topics and Schedule
Wednesday, May 1	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, May 5	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 9:50 AM Discussions and Study Session • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, May 8	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, May 12	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 9:50 AM Discussions and Study Session • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, May 15	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, May 19	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • Pancake Breakfast • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, May 22	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, May 26	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 9:50 AM Discussions and Study Session • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, May 29	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, June 2 <i>Music Sunday</i>	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 9:50 AM Discussions and Study Session • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, June 5	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, June 9 <i>Youth Sunday</i>	• 10:30 AM ONE WORSHIP SERVICE • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, June 12	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, June 16	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 9:50 AM Discussions and Study Session • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, June 19	• 6 PM Vacation Bible School—Join Paul in Athens!
Sunday, June 23	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 9:50 AM Discussions and Study Session • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, June 26	• 6 PM Wednesday Study - <i>What's So Amazing About Grace?</i>
Sunday, June 30 <i>Independence Sunday</i>	• 10:30 AM ONE WORSHIP SERVICE • 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i> —Teaching & Discussion Group



Helping men grow in Christ; so others may know Christ!

UMM Board:

Bernie Hawkins, *President*
Mike Johnson, *Vice President*
Wayne Huggins, *Treasurer*
Tom Egan, *Devotions*
Val McClure, *UMM Publicity*



Taco Salad Buffet Was A Success - Thank you to all who contributed. Watch the Sunday Bulletins for a report on the earnings. The UMM will also announce what projects they are funding to the end of the year.

The Last Pancake Breakfast Before Summer

The last Pancake Breakfast before fall will be held in Criswell Hall from 8:45 to 10:30am on May 19th. The full Breakfast cost \$5 for adults and \$1 for kids under age 10 years old.



Carl Kliesch Memorial Golf Tournament

This Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 1st at the beautiful Trilogy Golf Challenge Course in Nipomo. Sign-in is from 8—8:30 AM. There will be a shotgun start at 9 AM for the 12 holes, par 3. Lunch will be immediately after the last round in the Butterfly Grill in the Trilogy

Club House. Cost - \$47 includes Green fees, Range Balls, Cart, Lunch & Prizes. For those not golfing - Lunch will be \$18. Golf Only No Lunch \$29. For more info., please call Bud Johnson, Tournament director.

ALL CHURCH BBQ

Is scheduled for Sunday, June 16th from 11:45am to 1pm. Menu will include tri-tip or chicken, BBQ'd Ranch Beans, Salad, Rolls, Lemonade and coffee. Cost: Adults \$8, Kids under 10 years \$4. Tickets are needed for this event so the men will know the amount of meat to order. Tickets go on sale June 2nd. There will be no door sales unless prior arrangement is made with Wayne Huggins.



UMM Schedule 2013

- May 19th Pancake Breakfast
- June 1 Carl Kliesch Memorial Golf Tournament
- June 16th All-Church Barbeque

Contact our UMM for
more information on
these events!



Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, is a day on the civil calendar for remembering and honoring those who have given their lives in battle.

The day is also known as *Decoration Day* for the custom of placing flags at the graves of the patriotic dead.

The Church and Children's Center Offices will be **closed** on **May 27th** in observance of this holiday.

Any groups that regularly meet on this day, please check with your group chair/leader to see if you will be meeting.



Deadline for our next issue will be June 10th.

Article and Item ideas can be e-mailed to the church office before the Communications Committee on next



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

"The organized unit of the 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."

Sally Weitkamp, *UMW President*; Betty Ashton, *Treasurer*; Patti Melsheimer, *UMW Publicity*

First UMC of Arroyo Grande United Methodist Women



Enchilada Luncheon and Discussion of Immigration and the Bible

Saturday, May 4th

11 AM – 1 PM

Criswell Hall

Guest Speaker—Stephanie Kimec
Registration Fee: \$5 per person

Don't miss this special event!



A US-2 Missionary, Stephanie is assigned to the Immigration Task Force of the California-Pacific United Methodist

Church Annual Conference and the Echo Park Shalom Ministry in Los Angeles.



The next **UMW Book Club** meeting will be on Thursday, May 23 at 10 AM in the McMillen Room. May's reading is,

"Proof of Heaven, A Neurosurgeon's Journey Into the Afterlife," by Eben Alexander, M.D.

Overview - "Thousands of people have had near-death experiences, but scientists have argued that they are impossible. Dr. Eben Alexander was one of those scientists. A highly trained neurosurgeon, Alexander knew that NDEs feel real, but are simply fantasies produced by brains under extreme stress. Then, Dr. Alexander's own brain was attacked by a rare illness."

In June we will meet on Thursday, the 27th after reading,

"Reluctant Pilgrim: A Moody, Somewhat Self-Indulgent Introvert's Search for Spiritual Community," by Eruma Okoro.

Overview - Are you thirsty for God but not so sure about church? If you've ever had doubts or felt the gnawing need to examine your interior life, you'll find a trustworthy companion in *Reluctant Pilgrim*. Eruma Okoro is a tea-sipping, purse-shopping, seminary-educated, multicultural world traveler who's been through many twists and turns in her spiritual journey. She is a God-hungry woman trying to navigate her mixed desires, convictions, and disappointments.

Join us for lively discussion of each of these books!

For more information contact Patti Melsheimer via the church office. Books available for \$10 each.

Trustees Report

Tom Egan, *Chair*



MARCH AND APRIL 2013

- In the March meeting, Tom Egan and Don McGuire were re-elected to their positions as chair and vice chair, respectively.
- In February, the Parsonage Fund lost \$500, but in March it gained \$7,000. Due to a few bills coming in late, some were posted to the 2013 budget. It will take some time to be within the budget—if at all.
- All utilities reported a price increase after we set our budget. Our budget was increased, but utilities are larger.
- The Board approved Marj Cawelti to approach companies that have large pieces of equipment and see if they are looking for a place to park them. Maybe in our vacant lot.
- We received one more quote to redo the parking lot. Prices have gone up since 3 years ago. We will look at May, June or July to do the work.
- The sump pump near Halcyon St. has been repaired but it now has a new top to help keep out the mud and the leaves. Here we go again folks. Doors are left unlocked, lights are on and so is the gas to the heaters.
- In February, a homeless man gained access to the kitchen, from there to the Narthex and slept on one of the sofas. It was soiled and had to be cleaned. The security of this Church does not rest with one person. We are talking about the House of The lord. We are all responsible.
- **When you leave a meeting, check to see if the gas is off and the lights are off. It is better to have four people checking than none. Please, lets work on this.**
- We have instituted a change concerning afternoon concerts. All those participating in or putting on concerts, are not to arrive before 12:30 PM. This allows us to enjoy uninterrupted fellowship with as a congregation.

Wednesdays - 9AM



Join us as we clean up our house of worship—come, and spruce up the House of the Lord; *there is always something to do and places that need work—jobs of all kinds.*

Come, contribute as you are able—all are welcome!

- Don McGuire has requested that the organ repair people be changed. It is time for battery replacement.
- During the month of March we learned that the bus needs to be brought up to code before it can again go out on the street. This modification will cost \$15,000. No, that is not a misprint. The Board agrees that we cannot afford this price tag. I will seek out a company that takes such vehicles off ones hand. We thought of replacing the diesel with a regular engine. That too is too expensive.
- As some of you have already seen, the carpet in front of the altar has wax stains on it. I will attempt to remove such stains. I asked God for help, he said "I didn't put that wax there." To which I replied, "Message received."
- Maddy has asked us to look at the top of the railing above the court yard. Pieces are coming off. Children play in that area. This we will do.
- Since the last revision of the budget, I need some help. I thought the original budget was short on kitchen supplies. The latest revision indeed leaves me short. Starting Sunday, May 5th, I will leave a large coffee can on the counter for those who wish to help. Donations only...anything helps.
- On a more personal note: Two Saturdays ago I came to the Church to cook 20 pounds of ground beef for Sunday's taco feast. The cans of diced green peppers were gone. The packages of garlic, gone. The cans of tomato sauce, gone. I knew this couldn't be and I looked in every nook and cranny. No luck, all gone. *How could someone come into the Lord's Kitchen and take the food?*

National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 2nd

UMC of Arroyo Grande
Sanctuary is open for prayer
11 AM - 1 PM.

Drop in anytime!





UMC of AG's People's Kitchen Team serves hot meals to our community at

the Shouts of Grace Church in Grover Beach on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month. The team leaves from UMC of AG ready to shine for Christ. To help, see the Ashtons.

Always In Need of: Clothing (CLEAN & SEASON APPROPRIATE), travel-sized toiletries, bedding, towels, oral hygiene supplies (tooth brushes & toothpaste, etc.), new socks, and people to make casseroles—*ingredients provided.*

Contact the Ashtons for details.

- **Y.T.D. Meals served:** 1131
- **Total new socks** given out to date in program 7,992 pairs.

Wanted!

- People who *like to sing!*
- People who would like to participate in a music ministry that uses a variety of gospel, contemporary, & traditional music.
- People who desire the company of those who love to worship the Lord through music.
- People who enjoy getting together and fellowship with other singers.
- People who want to have fun singing with others.

If you answered yes to the above questions, then consider joining:

The Chancel Choir Rehearsal

- **Wednesdays Night Rehearsal:** 7—8:30 PM, from the last Sunday in August to the first Sunday in June. *Choir is off during the summer.*
- **Sundays Morning Rehearsals (before worship):** 9:45 AM—10:15 AM.
- **Worship Services:** 10:30 AM—11:30 AM

Special Events

There is still time to join the Chancel Choir this year as we prepare for **Music Sunday on June 2, 2013** during the 10:30 AM service.

We also have some exciting events planned for next season.

What are you waiting for? Come and join us on Wednesday evenings.

See you there at 7 PM in the Sanctuary!

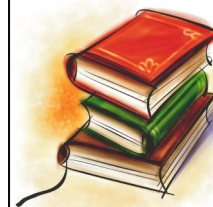
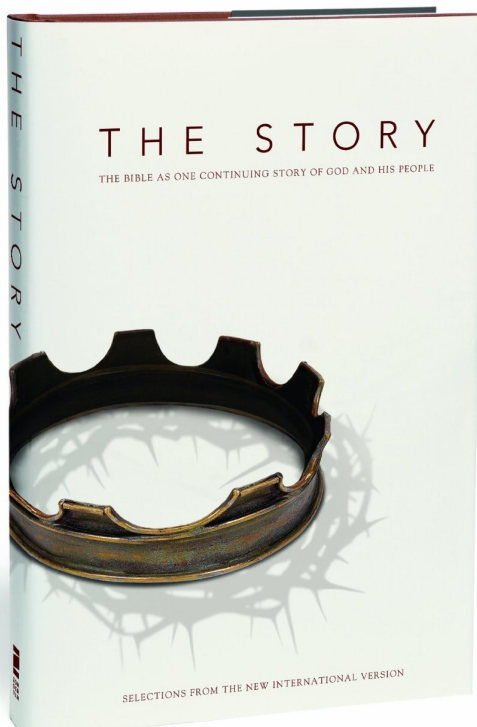


Sauce

“THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD” Is More Than Just A Cliché.

God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what *The Story* is all about: the story of the Bible, God's great love affair with humanity. Beginning in August, we will dig into this condensed into 31 accessible chapters, *The Story* which sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. Using the clear, accessible text, it allows the stories, poems, and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. And like any good story, *The Story* is filled with intrigue, drama, conflict, romance, and redemption; AND this book's story is true!

Don't miss next month's issue and weekly bulletins for more information.



Library News

The Library has a new and excellent resource book entitled, *Illustrated Dictionary and Concordance for the Bible*. It is easy to use with everything in alphabetical order.

Come in and have a look!



Victoria Gandy,
Children's Ministry Director

**Vacation Bible School
NOTEABLE NEWS**
VOLUNTEERS for Athens 2013
*Paul's Dangerous Journey to
Share the Truth* are **NEEDED!**
June 17th - 21st



June will be here before we know it! We still have some openings for volunteers to take part in this awesome event. We are having work days on Tuesday evenings from 6—8 pm painting signs and banners. Come join us, share the fun. What are we looking for?

- * 2 Marketplace shopkeepers and assistants
- * 3 groups to make a meal one night of the VBS week
- * Childcare/Nursery workers
- * 5 Group leaders for the children—each representing a different city



We invite you to prayerfully consider where God might have you serve during VBS week. For further information on cost and registration, please contact Victoria Gandy at 481-2692, ext. 13, or leave a message with the church office. Blessings to all and we hope to see you there!

Ms. Victoria



8:30 & 10:30 AM

Pre-school and elementary kids meet in the Sanctuary at the beginning of worship, *we all pile in the front pew.* We invite the kids to the front, during worship for the **Children's Moment** - after which they are dismissed with teachers to their classrooms.

The first Sunday of the month, our group will go off to the McMillen Room for "What We Know Sunday" on our past lessons and then meet with the adults in the sanctuary for communion.



It's hard to believe but youth Sunday is almost here!!! This year our theme is ***The Bible....In One Hour.*** Wow! You are going to want to come to see how we do that. We wanted to tie into *The Bible in 90 Days* that the whole church just finished Easter Sunday. Ask Collin to name the books of the Bible, he's pretty good.

Jordan Henderson has already been working with Beyond 490 and there is going to be some awesome music. We have five graduating seniors this year and they are working on what they are going to say, or at least that's what they tell me. We are trying something different this year and have **one combined service**, so mark your calendars for **Sunday, June 9 10:30 am.** As always, we will have our delicious bake sale to raise funds for Camp. If you are on a diet or you don't eat sweets, please consider helping to sponsor sending a youth to camp. Camp costs are \$395 per camper.

Speaking of camp, Cal-Pac Camp's theme this year is All Things New - Look What God is Doing. This year grades 6-9 will attend Camp Arroyo Grande from July 7-13 and grades 9-12 from July 14-20. Please see Mike or Linda if you plan to attend.

In His Service, Mike and Lou—your Youth Directors



**youth
group**
SCHEDULE
Sundays - 10:30 AM
Wednesdays - 7 PM
Join these 6th-12th grade
teens living for Christ (215).

News from the Mission Team

Judy Atwood, Mission Team Chair

MISSION TEAM NEWS: May/June

Many new things to report this edition...so read carefully so as not to miss out. 1.) Peace With Justice Special Offering - Sunday, June 30; 2.) Meet our Covenant Missionary; 3.) A Visit With Julie; 4.) Clean Water for All; 5.) Special Giving for January—March 2013.

1.) **GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE..IN ACTION**

Peace with Justice Sunday is June 30. Your gifts on this Sunday will change lives in places where the joy of knowing Christ is mixed with the tragedy of violence. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bishop Nkulu Ntanda Ntambo assumed his post as a brutal civil war began in 1996. After nearly eight years of war, he helped to broker a peace settlement at a conference where 250 fighters committed not to fight again. United Methodists in the Democratic Republic of the Congo — 2.3 million strong — received two Peace with Justice grants from the General Board of Church and Society to respond to the 2011 post-election violence and to teach people to share Jesus' love. The special offering benefits peace-related ministries in annual conferences and through the Board of Church and Society.

2.) **COVENANT MISSIONARY: FRIDO KINKOLENGE**



The Mission Team selected Frido to be our covenant missionary again for this year. He is serving as Director of Children's Ministries in the Liberian Annual Conference and Emk Weltmission Children's Project Manager in Liberia. He sends his greetings, too!! A copy of his newsletter is on our Mission Team bulletin board.

3.) **A VISIT WITH REV. JULIE ELMORE—Nome, AK:**

Community United Methodist Church in Nome, Alaska, through the local United Methodist Women (UMW), has organized a layette ministry for several decades. The items include diapers, receiving blankets, outfits, sweaters, mittens, hats, booties,

socks, baby books, t-shirts, quilts and fleece blankets, and any other item a baby would need in the first several months of life. Some items are hand knitted, while others are purchased. We bundle up several of these items and wrap them in a quilt or fleece blanket and tie it up with ribbon, forming an adorable layette. We also attach a card to the layette, indicating that this is a gift to the new baby from the United Methodist Women. If you would like to partner with us in the layette ministry, bring items to church and put in basket under mission table. We will get them to her.

Keep up with her ministry in Nome, AK on website at church@cumcnome.org. Pastor Julie updates this site on Monday's.

- 4.) **CLEAN WATER FOR ALL:** Check out the chart in the hallway to Criswell Hall from the outside to see how we are doing on raising funds for a well for Africa. We have not rescheduled our potluck yet. We will let you know when it is rescheduled.

5.)

Special Giving Chart Jan.—Mar. 2013

Boyle's Itineration	181.16
Human Relations Day	54.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	268.65
People's Kitchen	956.59
So. County Food Bank	174.60
Wells for Africa	32.00
Youth Mission Fund	202.00
2013 Giving Total	1869.00

Thank you for your faithfulness You have blessed many others locally and around the world.

Many hands can do many things!

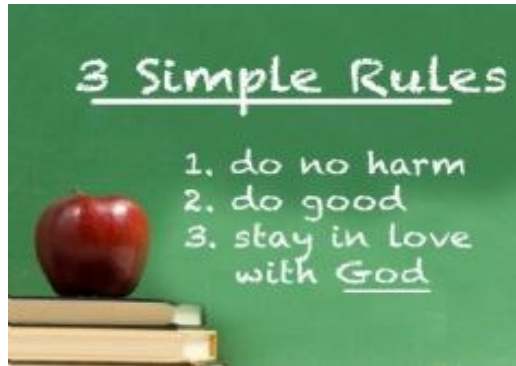


LOOK AT THE MANY WAYS WHERE YOU ARE PLUGGED INTO MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. WE CELEBRATE YOU!

It May Be Simple, But It Ain't Easy

Source: GBOD.org

Bishop Rueben Job has written a new book titled, **Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living**. This is a little book; only 4" by 6" and 64 pages long with an additional 12 pages of prayer guides and a song. It doesn't take long to read, but it would take you a lifetime to live by the rules. It is a book to generate much thought and discussion. An adult class at my church has already spent several weeks in discussion, and they're only to the second rule.



Job bases his book on John Wesley's General Rules. He uses a shorthand version: Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God. Though they sound simple, making the life decisions to carry out these rules is not easy. Is the car I am driving causing harm to the environment? Am I doing enough good? Am I really willing to commit my life to these principles? Do I have to do this in order to be a "good" Christian? Am I really willing to give up being in control in order to follow these rules?

The class has discussed forgiveness, self-defense, and trusting in God. We sing that we will follow Jesus, but are we really committed to loving God and loving neighbor every day in every way?

Members of this class have to struggle with their own level of commitment. If they were members of a Covenant Discipleship group, they would already be doing that and would have help and support for discipleship.

This book makes a wonderful companion piece to Covenant Discipleship. I recommend it to every Sprouts leader. Use it to strengthen your own spiritual life. Use it as background and guide to teaching the foundations of Sprouts to your kids. Help them think about the ways that we do harm every day -- gossip, cheating on homework or tests, bullying, name calling, littering, wasting energy -- the list goes on.

Are they willing to give up these and other harmful ways? What are the "simple" ways Sprouts can do good? What do they need to include in their acts of kindness and justice?

We "stay in love with God" through acts of devotion and worship. Again, easy to say; but how faithful are we to these spiritual disciplines? You could use the book and Bishop Job's guides to daily prayer to help your kids create their own one-line daily prayers.

As an adult leader, you can be a model and example here. Testify to the impact of spiritual disciplines in your own life. What difference does attending worship and daily Bible study make in your life? How does it help you do no harm and do good? How does it help you stay in love with God?

This book could be a launching point into forming a Covenant Discipleship group for children, youth, or adults. I recommend you take an hour or two and read **Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living**.



Hilary Henderson	May 2
Susan Coho	May 3
Karen Wise	May 8
Glen Hughes	May 9
Jim David	May 11
Heidi Carpentier	May 13
Doris Douglas	May 16
Michael Herber	May 20
Paul Jacob	May 22
Marcia Bess	May 26

Lew Hammond	June 3
Mike Reineke	June 4
James Steiner	June 5
Ray Douglas	June 7
Sadie Krovious	June 8
Doug Craig	June 11
Bill Weitkamp	June 11
Lili Bauske	June 14
Chet Keilan	June 15
Janice Moore	June 15
George Stewart	June 17
Pauline Castillo	June 18
Linda Herber	June 18
Gloria Johnson	June 19
Dick Gainer	June 20
Betty Perriguet	June 20
Jean Hubbard	June 22
Gladys Paulsen	June 23
Lorie Ford	June 27
Bobbi Merris	June 28



Did we miss a birthday?
Contact our church office...
we need you to fill out an information form for you and your family.

Meet Our
**CHURCH
STAFF**

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E-mail: fumcag@scbglobal.net
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Rev. David M. Burgeson

Missionary (retired):

Judy Atwood

Office Administrator:

Sarah Burgeson

Bookkeeper: Victoria Gandy

Website Manager: Jamie Foster

Choir Director: Julie Burns

Praise Team Director: Susan Coho

Organist: Don McGuire

Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler

Multi-Media Director: Mike Coho

Puppet People, Chair: Mike Herber

Handbell Choir Dir.: Leonard Lutz

Christian Education Directors:

Susan Coho, *Adult*

Mike & Linda Herber, *Youth*

Victoria Gandy, *Children*

Bishop: Minerva G. Carcaño

District Superintendent:

Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth

AG UM Children's Center

Director: Madrigal Quaglino

E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net

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Chair: open position

Members At Large:

Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Pastor
David Burgeson, Sarah Burgeson,
Susan Coho, Virginia Mothes, and
Jerry Smith.

Layout Editor: Sarah Burgeson

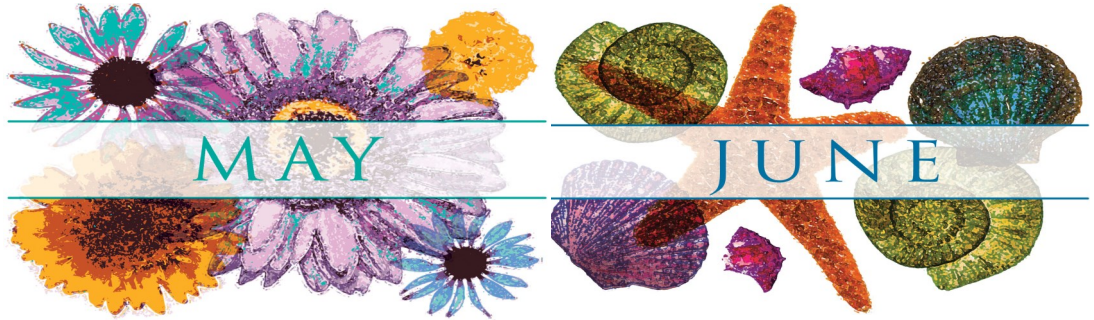
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- Gary Hughes, *select photos*
- Val McClure, *varied features*
- Varied Teams/Committees

Deadline: 10th of each month

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



	Event/Meetings	Time
5/1	EOC Senior Health Screen	9 AM
5/2	National Day of Prayer Sanctuary open for prayer	11 AM — 1 PM
5/2	People's Kitchen	11 AM
5/3	AG UM CC Staff Development	4 PM
5/4	UMW Cinco De Mayo Luncheon / Discussion on Immigration & the Bible	11 AM — 1 PM
5/4	Praise Team	6:30 PM
5/7	Trustees	7 PM
5/8	All-Church Work Day	9AM
5/9	Esther Circle	12 PM
5/9	Worship Team	7 PM
5/10	AG UM CC Staff Appreciation	1 PM
5/13	Five Cities Christian Women	Noon
5/13- 18	Pastor is Gone to Preaching Conference in Nashville	—
5/13	Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Group	12 PM
5/14	UMW Steering	10 AM
5/15	All Church Work Day	9 AM
5/16	People's Kitchen	11 AM
5/17	Alzheimer's Support for Adult Children of Parents	12 PM
5/18	Praise Team	6:30 PM
5/19	UMM Pancakes	8:30 AM
5/19	Studio Sing Sing Sing Free Concert	3 PM
5/21	Congregational Care Team	10 AM
5/21	Preschool Board ▪ Closed session ▪ Open session	— 1:30 PM 2:30 PM
5/21	JOY Circle	7 PM
5/22	Mary-Martha Circle	9:30 AM
5/23	UMW Book Club	10 AM
5/23	Mission Team	2 PM
5/27	Memorial Day	CLOSED

	Event/Meetings	Time
6/1	Carl Kliesch Memorial Golf Tournament	9 AM
6/1	Praise Team	6:30 PM
6/2	Music Sunday	—
6/4	Communications Team	11 AM
6/4	Trustees	7 PM
6/5	EOC Senior Health Screen	9 AM
6/5	All-Church Work Day	9AM
6/6	People's Kitchen	11 AM
6/7	AG UM CC Staff Development	4 PM
6/9	Youth Sunday ONE Service	10:30 AM
6/10	Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Group	12 :30 PM
6/11	UMW Steering	10 AM
6/12	Alzheimer's Association Care Giver Support Group	12 PM
6/13	People's Kitchen	11 AM
6/13	Esther Circle	12 PM
6/13	AG UM CC End of the Year Potluck	12 PM
6/13	Worship Team	7 PM
6/13	AG UM CC Graduation and Acknowledgement	7 PM
6/14	AG UMCC Closed	—
	Cal-Pac Annual Conference	6/13-16
6/15	Praise Team	6:30 PM
6/16	UMM All-Church BBQ	11:30 AM
6/17- 21	Athens: Paul's Journey of Faith VBS for all ages!	5-8 PM
6/18	Congregational Care Team	10 AM
6/18	Preschool Board ▪ Closed session ▪ Open session	— 1:30 PM 2:30 PM
6/18	JOY Circle	7 PM
6/21	Alzheimer's Support for Adult Children of Parents	12 PM
6/26	Mary-Martha Circle	9:30 AM
6/27	UMW Book Club	10 AM
6/29	Praise Team	6:30 PM
6/30	ONE Service <i>Peace With Justice Offering</i>	10:30 AM



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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Address SERVICE REQUESTED

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INSERT:

Children's Center Chronicle
May & June Calendars

Vacation Bible School for all ages!

Escape to Athens with Paul!

Imagine leaving a life of privilege and power to face angry mobs, painful imprisonment, and chain-breaking earthquakes—all to spread the **life-changing truth** of God's love. WOW!

Learn the **jaw-dropping story** of the Apostle Paul straight from Paul himself! In an ancient "anything goes" culture, Paul will inspire kids to share the truth of **God's immeasurable love** today!



June 17-21, 2013

Dinner at **5 PM** (included in registration fee!)

Program is from **6—8 PM**

\$15. per person—family rates available.

Contact Victoria Gandy via our church office for information.