

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

275 North Halcyon Road
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

Contact us with any questions!

M - F from 9 AM – 1 PM (subject to change)

* Our Senior Pastor is off on Mondays.

Church Office: 805 . 481 . 2692

On The Web @ worshipweekly.com

Via E-mail: fumcag@sbcglobal.net

AG UM Children's Center

Program Tours Daily by appointment ONLY
on Monday thru Friday 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
or 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM. *Come and find out if
we are a good fit for you and your child.*

Office Hours: M—F from 8 AM—5 PM

Office: 805 . 481 . 2223

E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net

Be sure to fill out an information sheet and turn it into the church office so that we can update our database. Copies are available in the Narthex or via the church office. We don't want to miss your birthday, or an opportunity to send you the newsletter, as well as, pastor's weekly e-mail.

Meet Our
CHURCH STAFF

Cal-Pac Conference Bishop:
Minerva G. Carcaño

North District Superintendent:
Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth

Senior Pastor:
Rev. David M. Burgeson

Missionary (retired):
Judy Atwood

Church 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 Director: Leonard Lutz

Christian Education Directors:
Susan Coho, *Adult*
Mike & Linda Herber, *Youth*
Victoria Gandy, *Children*

AG UM Children's Center

Director: Madrigal Quagliano

Bookkeeper: Victoria Gandy

8:30 AM Order of Worship for 2 March 2014



Esther 1:16-18

Then Memukan replied in the presence of the king and the nobles, "Queen Vashti has done wrong, not only against the king but also against all the nobles and the peoples of all the provinces of King Xerxes.

For the queen's conduct will become known to all the women, and so they will despise their husbands and say, 'King Xerxes commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, but she would not come.'

This very day the Persian and Median women of the nobility who have heard about the queen's conduct will respond to all the king's nobles in the same way. There will be no end of disrespect and discord..."

Esther 4:14—16

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will per-

ish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

Romans 8:1, 2, 35 & 39

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

...neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

275 N. Halcyon Road . Arroyo Grande . CA (805) 481-2692

2 March 2014 "The Story" - Queen of Beauty and Courage

✚ DENOTES STANDING AS YOU ARE ABLE

Worship is led by Lord's Crew

Welcome and News of the Church

Pastor David

✚ Scripture Reading Hebrews 4:12—16

In Unison

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

✚ Opening Prayer

Pastor David

Praise

*The Voice of Truth
Above All
How Great Is Our God*

The Lord's Crew

Prayer of Adoration

Susan Coho

Prayer for the Giving and Receiving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Pastor David

Offertory

Amazing Love

We Share In God's Peace (Greet the Person Next to You and Share God's Love)

Joys and Concerns with Pastoral Prayer and Thanksgiving

Pastor David

Scripture Reading

Esther 1:16—18, 4:14—16; Romans 8: 1, 2, 35, & 39

Mike Herber

One: This is the word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Message

Queen of Courage and Beauty
Pastor David M. Burgeson

Communion Scripture

I Corinthians 11:23-26

In Unison

Communion Song

Were You There?

✚ Benediction Song

The Lord Bless Thee

Pastor David

Recessional

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Next weeks scripture references for next week are :

"The Story" Sermon Series

Chapter 21: "Rebuilding the Walls" (Nehemiah)

OR read in your Bible: Ezra 7; Nehemiah 1—2, 4, 6—8; Malachi 1—4.



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2 March 2014 "The Story" - Queen of Beauty and Courage

† DENOTES STANDING AS YOU ARE ABLE

Today is Communion Sunday

Welcome and News of the Church

Pastor David

Prelude

In His Presence (L. Loucks, composer)

Choral Introit

† Opening Prayer

Rev. Harold Headrick

* Please stand as you are able in body and/or in spirit for our Call To Worship:

One: God calls us together from every nation and land.

Many: **Blessed be the God of all the nations.**

One: Young and old, male and female, rich and poor, and of numerous colors, we are here together.

Many: **Blessed be the God of all earth's peoples.**

One: Here now we have gathered together for worship.

Many: **We join as one family to worship and to celebrate in Holy Communion.**

* Please remain standing for our opening hymn.

† Hymn No. 103

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Children's Moment

Patti Melsheimer

Grades K—6 are invited to go with the teachers to Sunday School upstairs in room 211 at this time. Nursery available. Youth meet in room 215.

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Harold Headrick

One: Please join me in our Prayer of Confession:

ALL: **Holy God, we do live in the joy and wonder of your love. However, we find it so easy to be in disagreement. We take each other for granted. So often we are tempted to cut the ropes of love that bind us together. We tend to turn away from those with whom we have disagreements. Help us, Lord, here today in this time of remembrance and celebration to start fresh and new, filled with your holy and redeeming love. Amen.**

Choral Anthem

The Lord Is My Shepherd (by John Rutter)

Joys & Concerns with Pastoral Prayers & Thanksgiving

Pastoral Prayer for Giving & Receiving—Our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

Prayer (J. Drew, composer)

† Doxology

Prayer For Illumination

Pastor David

One: Please join me in our *Prayer for Illumination*.

ALL: **Lord of our lives, we know you are always present to us. Help us to be present to you as we prepare to hear your word as revealed in the Scriptures. Keep us alert that we might hear, and hearing, respond. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Esther 1:16—18, 4:14—16; Romans 8: 1, 2, 35, & 39

One: This is the word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Queen of Beauty and Courage

Pastor David M. Burgeson

Join Together in The Great Thanksgiving—Hymnal pages 13 & 14

We Sing the Lord's Prayer (in unison)

The Sharing of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

† Hymn No. 584

Lord, You Give the Great Commission (verses 1,2, & 5 only)

† Benediction

† Choral Response

Postlude

Sing Praise (L. Smith, composer)

Next weeks scripture references for next week are :

"The Story" Sermon Series—Chapter 21: "Rebuilding the Walls" (Nehemiah)

OR read in your Bible: Ezra 7; Nehemiah 1—2, 4, 6—8; Malachi 1—4.

Prayers & Thanksgiving for 2 March 2014

- Health and healing for those in our church family who are battling illness/health issues.
- For those who have recently lost loved ones.
- The financial welfare and stewardship of our church, its members and friends.
- Prayers for the Middle East.
- The People's Kitchen find a permanent place.
- The US and these trying times.
- Those struggling with depression and isolation.
- Dave Bauer's family with the sudden passing of his children's mother (his ex-wife).
- A young girl, Isabella, is having complications following surgery.
- A friend of the Burgeson's, Linda, is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- Mary Ellen Keulen has moved to The Villages.
- Tina Moore's cousin Tess, having medical issues and intestinal problems and needs healing.
- Ann Williamson will have back surgery on March 5th; granddaughter Brooklyn came through her eye surgery successfully; Brooklyn's friend, Noland, was killed in a snowmobile accident.
- Marian Balster will have surgery on her eye; Travel Mercies as they hike the Grand Canyon.
- A teenage friends of Tina Moore & Buffy Preston who is suffering from cluster headaches.
- Judy Atwood asks prayer for: Cristy Eichelberger is waiting to see a neurosurgeon for her back pain; Joe, a friend of the family, is now in rehab in Bakersfield; Connor, 7 year old, who is having seizures from an unknown cause.
- Prayers for Syria, the Ukraine and Venezuela. And other areas in need.
- Ed Jayne (retired pastor of Ridgecrest Methodist Church) who had a heart attack.

Praise God for His Goodness and Mercy!

- Welcome our new friends at church today.
- Daniel Garcia's son was accepted at Cal-Poly.
- People's Kitchen thanks you for your giving of clothes and food. God bless you!

Remember in Prayer: Our pastor and his family; church family and friends; those with the unspoken prayer; the ministries of this church; our church leaders; those serving God around the world; the hungry, displaced, sick and/or impoverished; the many who are suffering after natural or man-made disasters and for the workers who minister to them; for God's peace & justice for the world; our nation; current leaders; salvation for the world through Jesus Christ; the military & their families; the Middle East & Syria.

Continue to Pray for: Jerry Smiths, Fenton McClure, Sheila Owine, Ken Coombs, Isabella Sloan, Ayleen Melsheimer, Les Bradley, the Williamses, Mike Douglas, Richard Gainer, Adam Gainer, Wil Ogden, Rick Ventura, John Odom, the Harveys, Al Gorsline, Melissa Ferrari, Harold Headrick, Lisa Graham, Sharkey, Ehrhardt Lang, Tess Raine, Ron Salisbury, & the Mark Moore Family.

In Care Facilities/Shut-ins: Bob Atwood, Bob Serby, Wayne Frisby, Doris Rice, Ruby Weddell, Yvonne Holt, Madge Young, Jeanne Jenkins, Donna Truman, the Bucktons, Sadie Krovious.
Covenant Missionary: Tim & Juji Boyle (Japan)
North District Weekly Covenant Prayer: Bishop: 1st UMC—Kathleen Puntar & Matt McPhee; Independence: Pioneer Memorial—Erin McPhee.

Cal-Pac Missionaries in the Field: Charley Brower (Alaska), John Elmore (Chile), The Persons (Congo), The Hendersons (Mexico).

Prayers and Mission Focus for the Global UMC:

Mar. 2: The Vashti Center, Thomasville, GA; **Mar. 3:** Switzerland: United Methodist Women of the Central Conference of Central and southern Europe: Language training for women of Eastern Europe; **Mar. 4:** Sierra Leone: Child Rescue Center for vulnerable children; **Mar. 5:** Argentina: Argentine Federation of Methodist Women; **Mar. 6:** Sierra Leone: Regina Bangura School of Nursing: Building work; **Mar. 7:** Antigua: Gilbert Agricultural and rural Development Center: Capacity building of artisans; **Mar. 8:** Susanna Wesley Community Center, Honolulu, HI

The Bulletin Board

Join us TODAY after worship in Criswell Hall for a **Coffee Hour**. We want to get to know you!

Board of Trustees

is our coffee host this week.

Next Week's Coffee Hour Host:

Mary-Martha Circle



Altar Flowers

In loving memory of Bill Ford.

from Lorie & family.

today TO DO LIST

- The Story Self-led Study & Cinema**—10 AM on the Criswell Hall stage.
- American Cancer Society "Relay for Life"** Benefit Concert at 3 PM (S)
- 'How To Study The Bible'** - 5 PM

Register Your Attendance!

Registration pads are at the end of each pew. Please include mailing address, e-mail if any and any changes for our church directory.



THIS WEEK @CHURCH

- UMC of AG Emergency Food Distribution**—Monday from 1—3 PM (CH).
- Women of Prayer**—Monday at 7 PM (S).
- Men's Bible Study & Prayer**—Monday at 7 PM (215).
- Sew 'n' Sews**—Tuesday at 9 AM (MMR).
- Trustees**—Tuesday at 7 PM (MMR).
- Grande Ringers Handbell Practice**—Tues. & Thurs. at 5 PM in the hand bell room.
- Senior Exercise**—T/W/Th. at 8:30 AM (CH)
- Church Work Day** – Wednesday at 9 AM.
- UMC of AG People's Kitchen Team Prep-Day**—Wednesday at 10 AM (K/CH)
- Ash Wednesday Souper Supper** — Wednesday at 5 PM (CH). All are welcome.
- The Story Study—Ch. 20: "Rebuilding the Wall"** - Wednesday at 5:45 PM (MMR).
- Kid's Night Out (K- 5th)** - Wednesday at 5:45 PM (CH).
- Imposition of the Ashes**—Wednesday at 6:45 PM (CH).
- Youth Group** - Wednesday at 7 PM (215).
- Choir Practice**—Wednesday at 7 PM
- World Day of Prayer**—Thursday
- Women's Walk to Emmaus**—Thursday—Sunday (UMC of Ventura)
- Intercessory Prayer**—Thursday at 10 AM (L).
- UMC of AG People's Kitchen Team leaves to Serve**—Thursday at 11:30 AM (parking lot).
- AM Bible Study**—Friday at 8:30 AM (L).
- Praise Team**—Saturday at 6:30 PM (S).
- Friendship Sunday and ONE SERVICE Combined Service**—10:30 AM—NEXT WEEK.
- North District Visioning Event**—Sunday (3/9) from 3—6 PM at the Santa Barbara UMC.

JOIN US FOR A
**FELLOWSHIP
DINNER**

Wednesdays at 5 PM—Criswell Hall - FREE!

This week dinner is:
**Soup Supper for
 Ash Wednesday**
 Bring a soup to share.
Join us!!



Adults Sundays at 10 AM
 Wednesdays at 5:45 PM;
 Fridays at 8:30 AM

**Youth
 Children** Wednesdays at 7 PM
 Sundays at 10:30 AM and
 Wednesdays at 6 PM

An ALL age study like you have never seen!



North District Training
Day #2
March 22, 2014
9 AM – 3 PM
San Luis Obispo UMC

**5-Day Lenten Lay
 Servant School & Revival**
April 6 – 10, 2014
Valley Korean UMC
 (Granada Hills)

Training Workshops Include:
 Staff, Pastor Relations (SPRC)
 Committee Training; Apportion-
 ments & Table Reports Training;
 Church-Based Social Change and
 Trustees & Church Facilities.
Childcare available.

Classes: 6:30—8:15 PM
Revival Worship: 8:15—9 PM

Revival Features: Gifted Lay
 Preachers! Guest Choirs! Praise
 Bands! Praise and Liturgical
 Dance! Tag-Team Preaching!
 5-minute Sermonettes!

For more information or to register, contact the church office.



**Daylight Savings Time
 Begins**
 Sunday, March 9.

Be sure to change your
 clocks before going to
 sleep. We want to see
 you Sunday morning.

ONE Service Sunday
 A combined worship with
 our chancel choir and
 praise team at 10:30 AM.

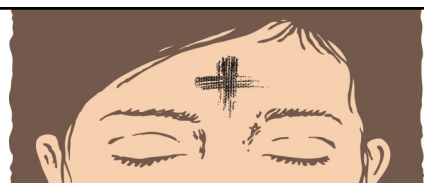


**Music for A Sunday
 Afternoon**

DOUBLE UP YOUR
 ENJOYMENT
TODAY at 3 PM

Two quartets...that is
 8 Saxophones...who will
 bring you Jazz, Rag Time,
 Swing and Marches.

The UMM will serve
 goodies at intermission.
 No fixed admission.
 Donations are encour-
 aged that will go to the
**American Cancer Soci-
 ety's "Relay for Life."**
 Help us find a cure!



**Ash Wednesday
 Souper Supper &
 Imposition of the Ashes**
March 5th

Souper Supper is at 5 PM
*Please bring your favorite
 soup to share.*

Pastors study begins at 5:45 PM

Imposition of the Ashes
 at 6:45 PM in Criswell Hall.

Be sure to join us!



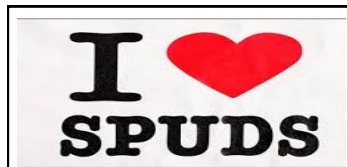
**North District Visioning
 Event w/ Bishop Carcaño**

our church is invited to be
 in reflection and discern-
 ment with Bishop Carcaño
 about the vision of our
 annual conference.

Sun, March 9, 2014
 3-6pm at Santa Barbara
 First UMC
 Sign-up to carpool in the
 Narthex or church office.



If you requested a hard copy,
 you will find it in Criswell Hall.
 For those who want it online,
 the link is there for you at your
 convenience at worshipweekly.com



**"Spud"- tacular
 is Coming!**
March 30 - \$6/\$8

FEED THE HUNGRY®

**UMC of AG
 Emergency Food Pantry**
 Food is distributed from our
 church every MONDAY
 from 1—3 PM. You can help!
 (* donations FUMCAG-
 memo UMC of AG Food Pantry).

People's Kitchen Team
 needs workers on the 1st and 3rd
 Wednesday and Thursday of each month to
 help make lunches and serve them to the
 hungry in our community.

Contact the Ashtons in Criswell Hall to help.

**5 Cities Christian Women
 Food Pantry**

Donations of non-perishable food are wel-
 come at any time. A marked basket is in the
 Narthex for your convenience.

Monetary donations pay to:
SCCW Emergency Food Ministry

P.O. Box 756,
 Grover Beach, CA 93483

**All valuable to the work of
 Jesus Christ and
 the ministry of His church.
 Any help is appreciated!**



sermon

notes

week 20

- I. The dangerous character named Haman who “rolls the dice.”
 - A. During the exile many Jews are living in the capitol city of Susa in Persia and in the 127 provinces of Persia.
 - B. In Susa is a descendant of the Amalekites named Haman who hates the Jews, particularly a Jew named Mordecai.
 1. Saul was told to destroy the Amalekites, but disobeyed and the Amalekites were the first people to obstruct Israel from entering the Promise Land.
 2. Haman carried a grudge against the Jews and held a high position in the Persian Empire under King Xerxes.
 - C. Haman convinces Xerxes to decree the extermination of the Jews in all 127 provinces and whoever kills the Jews can keep the Jews’ possessions.
 - D. Haman casts lots (Hebrew *pur* and *purim*), that is, he rolls the dice to determine the day to kill the Jews. The dice come up Adar 13th (March).
- II. The courageous characters named Esther and Mordecai who try to save the Jews.
 - A. Esther, a Jewish girl, is selected as Queen after Queen Vashti is deposed for resisting King Xerxes call to appear (Esther 1; 2:12).
 - B. Mordecai, Esther’s cousin, convinces Esther to appeal to Xerxes to stop the genocide of the Jews. The appeal could lead to Esther’s life (Esther 4:14 and 16).
 - C. Xerxes receives Esther who devised a plan to reveal the evil plot of Haman.

III. Haman is exposed and executed because of his evil plot to kill the Jews.

- A. Xerxes cannot sleep and reads that Mordechai, a Jew, had saved him from a plot to assassinate the king.
- B. Xerxes tells Haman he wants to honor a man and Haman thinks that the king has him in mind, not Mordecai.
 1. Xerxes asks Haman how a hero should be honored.
 2. Haman has to honor Mordecai by leading him as a hero through the city.
- C. At a private dinner arranged by Esther, Haman is exposed as the one who seeks to have all Jews killed on Adar 13th and he is executed on the very gallows he had built to kill Mordecai.

IV. Xerxes cannot revoke his decreed, but he does decree that the Jews can defend themselves on Adar 13th.

- A. The Jews prevail and the Jews declare Adar 13th (our March 10th) as the Feast of Purim, the Festival of the Dice.
- B. Mordecai is honored by taking Haman’s place as an official in the Empire and beautiful, courageous Esther continues as Queen.

Application:

- Proverbs 16:33 tells us that God controls the roll of the dice. God’s name is not mentioned in the Book of Esther, but his behind-the- scene presence guides all that seems to happen by “coincidence.”
- Colossians 2:16—17 tells Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of all Old Testament feasts, including Purim. We need not be afraid of anything.
- Name your fears...illness, aging, not enough money, loss of jobs, loss of home, family breakdown, being alone, wayward children, depression, death...whatever.
- Take a courageous stand, like Esther and Mordecai, knowing that life may look sometimes just like the “roll of the dice,” but God is behind the scenes working all things out for the good (Romans 8:28).