

"Know Christ, Grow in Christ, Go—Share Christ."

Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

September 2014



WELCOME
TO OUR
CHURCH

***"Make New Friends but Keep the Old,
One is Silver and the Other Gold"***

On Sunday, September 14th

You are invited to welcome our newest members and treasure our oldest members as we commemorate our church's 130th anniversary and recognize those who have joined our congregation in the last year.

We are delighted that we have been able to welcome ten new members into our church family since July 2013! We are also glad that so many of "The Villagers", those who attended the First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande when it was located in the Arroyo Grande Village, are still faithfully supporting our church. They will all be our guests of honor for the day.

There will be **one service at 10:30 a.m.** on this Sunday. Immediately following the worship service everyone is invited into Criswell Hall for lunch and the program. This is your chance to greet and get better acquainted with our newest members and to learn more about the history of our church and those who have been its steadfast and faithful servants.

Please look for the sign-up sheets at the Congregational Care Committee's table in Criswell Hall to make your reservations so that we will be able to have enough food for everyone!

"Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend" — Albert Camus

Living Water
A Ministry of UMC of AG Youth

It's that time again and the youth are busy collecting cases of water for the Harvest Festival booths.

We again will be at the **Harvest Festival September 26th & 27th**. We will have our refreshing station, where we hand out all those donated bottles of water from our congregation to thirsty festival goers with an uplifting message and information about our church on the bottle. We hope to reach 3,000 bottles or more distributed this year, so any help given in reaching that goal is appreciated. See Mike and Lou about bringing in your cases of water from your car or about cash donations and we will go purchase the water.

"Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life." -

Jesus Christ

Spiritual Living

What's the bedrock of life for Christians? Is it Bible reading? Church participation? Prayer? Is it a belief that Jesus is God's Son?

The foundation of Christian living is faith in Christ. Faith is the central loyalty that gives purpose and direction to our lives. Christian faith is grounding our lives in the living God as revealed especially in Jesus the Christ.

This faith does not happen overnight. It's a journey. From birth to death we're growing in faith. There are ups and downs — and sometimes long flat stretches where we seem to be stalled in our journey. But little by little, most of us deepen our relationship with God.

In part, this growth in faith is a *gift*. Through our participation in the community of faith, through our openness to God's love, we receive this marvelous treasure. But faith is also a *choice* we make, an often difficult decision to put God and God's reign first in our lives, no matter what the cost.

We cannot say that some people are "ahead" in the journey of faith and others "behind." Faith is not something we possess by degrees. The journey is complex, different for each traveler and involving at least four intertwined pathways:

Trusting

First and foremost, faith is trusting. To be a person of faith is to rely on God, to know that "the Lord is my shepherd" (Psalm 23). It's to rest confidently in the power and care of the living, loving Lord who's revealed in the Bible and in our own experience. Faith is to give ourselves to the movement of God's Spirit in our lives and in our times, not knowing where it will lead. ...

Believing

Faith is also believing *in* someone. In the Apostle's Creed, for example, we say, "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." This is not the same as saying, "I believe *that* God the Father Almighty exists." Rather, we're confessing our confidence in God, our devoted loyalty, and our allegiance. Such belief may involve going beyond what we're sure of and taking a "leap of faith."

Following

There's more to faith than trusting and believing. Faith is more active, a matter of *doing* as well as *being*. So Jesus said to his first disciples, "Follow me." To be faithful is to follow Jesus the Christ. It is to be one of his disciples, seeking to understand his will and his way — and to do it. Such discipleship is not an easy matter. Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:24-25)....

Hoping

Christian faith is also a matter of hoping, of leaning into the future that God has promised. It's living with the assurance that God is bringing in the time of shalom, God's reign here on earth. As Easter people, we have a hope born of the Resurrection: God has already conquered sin and death, and the kingdom of love, righteousness, peace and justice is even now breaking in. To abide in hope is to watch and pray for God's future and to join in the ministries through which it will be realized.

Surrounded by the love and encouragement of the community of believers, we persevere on the journey of faith, ever trusting, believing, following and hoping.

Shepherd's Notes

David Burgeson, *Pastor*

The above is an excerpt from The United Methodist Member's Handbook, (Revised and Expanded by George E. Koehler, pp. 62-63). I hope it blessed you as it did me as we go into our new series on Discipleship.

Together in ministry,

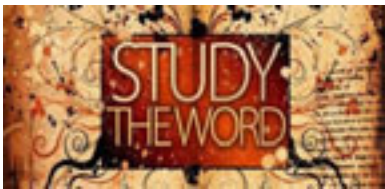
David





Mondays at 7 PM

Women come to pray together in the Sanctuary.



Sundays - 6 PM

Take part in this ongoing look at the Scriptures (currently in Luke) in the McMillen Room.



Mondays - 7 PM

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



Adults - 5:45 PM

Youth Group - 7 PM

(See schedule at right)
FREE Fellowship Meal at 5 PM



Fridays - 8:30 AM

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

JOIN US FOR A
FELLOWSHIP DINNER
FREE!
5 PM Wednesdays in Criswell Hall

Dates	Topics and Schedule
Wednesday, September 3	• 5:45 PM
Sunday, September 7	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Discipleship: Love (John 15:9—17) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion
Wednesday, September 10	• 5:45 PM
Sunday, September 14	• 10:30 AM Worship Service ONE SERVICE Discipleship: Follow (Mark 1:14—20) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion
Wednesday, September 17	• 5:45 PM
Sunday, September 21	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Discipleship: Pray (John 6:5—13) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion
Wednesday, September 24	• 5:45 PM
Sunday, September 28	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Discipleship: Join (Acts 11:19—26) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion



Friday, October 10th

- 6:30 PM Cowboy Church (PL)

Saturday, October 11th

- 11 AM - 1:30 PM Family Fun Day (PL & CH)
- 5:30 PM - Free Dinner (CH)
- 7 PM - Movie: "Heaven is for Real" (S)

Sunday, October 12th

- 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service (S)
- 9 AM - 10:30 AM Free Pancake Breakfast (CH)
- 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service (S)
- 11:30 AM - Welcome Coffee Hour (CH)
- 3 PM - Choral and Handbell Concert (S)

October 10-12, 2014

We know it is a bit early but we want to see you there!

SAVE The DATES!!

All events are free!

Check out the website on rocktheblock.org

You will not want to miss
ONE BIT of this whole weekend.
Bring the family, a friend...bring the whole neighborhood!



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

The FIRST United Methodist Men's meeting of the 2014-15 season is scheduled for September 20, at 8:30 AM. Our Agenda for the next meeting will be as follows:

- 1) UMM SCHEDULES FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR- To discuss the three church-wide planning goals from the church council thru solicitation of our congregation which were...
 - A. Provide Christian Education for all ages.
 - B. Encourage congregational participation for all church activities- which includes volunteer work.
 - C. Ideas for strengthening communication between the church staff, the congregation, and the community.
- 2) This letter served to all UMM to set-up our programs for the coming year. The subject of Leadership will also be discussed, types of speakers we would like to have speak at a few of our breakfasts-preferably religion-oriented. Church-wide planning goals will also be looked at to see how we can implement them into the UMM Program Year.
- 3) I will talk about my publicity idea for getting our church mission out there to our community & what device we can perhaps utilize...to advertise all-church activities....
- 4) ROCK THE BLOCK PANCAKES ON THE WAY...OCTOBER 12TH-as part of the ROCK THE BLOCK WEEK, the UMM will offer a FREE Pancake Breakfast from 08:45-AM—1030 AM. PLEASE invite a friend or neighbor to join us!!!



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!



Deadline September 12 NO EXCEPTIONS!

Article and item ideas must be e-mailed to the church office before the Communications Committee's next meeting on **September 16th.**



“In using all means, seek God alone. In and through every outward thing, look only to the power of His Spirit, and the merits of His Son. Beware you do not get stuck in the work itself; if you do, it is all lost labor. Nothing short of God can satisfy your soul. Therefore, fix on Him in all, through all, and above all...Remember also to use all means as means-as ordained, not for their own sake...”



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.”

WHAT WE DID THIS SUMMER

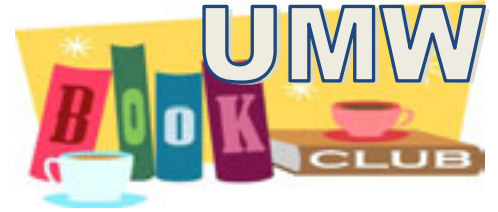
This summer three women, Mary Hawkins, Eva McClure and Patti Melsheimer from our local United Methodist Women were able to attend **Mission u** held at Biola University in La Mirada, California. What a wonderful, inspiring and invigorating experience! It was delightful to meet and share ideas with women from all over the California-Pacific Conference. The theme was “Learning Together for The Transformation of the World.” The mission studies included *The Church and People With Disabilities*, *The Roma of Europe*, and *How Is It With Your Soul?* We will be sharing information regarding these subjects through out the 2014-15 year.

In addition to attending study sessions to discuss these topics, we participated in worship services, enjoyed the singing of the women from the Korean UMW (over 100 in attendance) and the dancing and singing from women who are of Tongan ancestry. We also became acquainted with what it is like to live on a college campus and sleep in dorms!

We also learned about our UMW mission work. Did you know that there are 97 United Methodist Women-supported national mission institutions-community centers, schools, colleges, health care facilities and women’s residences? There is at least one national mission institution in each jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church. Visit the United Methodist Women website unitedmethodistwomen.org to see a complete listing of the 97 national mission institutions.

As well as supporting mission institutions, United Methodist Women take positions on social justice issues such as homelessness, hunger, poverty, racism, illiteracy, economic justice, war and peace, health care for children, international conflicts –the list of national and global issues seems endless. You are encouraged to read **response**, the magazine of women in mission to learn more about what UMW is doing. There are many back issues available in our church library.

(Please note the UMW program on “The Church and People with Disabilities” scheduled for October 4 has been postponed until the Spring.)



The purpose of the UMW Reading Program is to encourage United Methodist Women members to:

- Expand understanding of and participation in God’s mission.
- Increase sensitivity to all human beings—their needs, interests and concerns.
- Encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today.
- Grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life.
- Enhance self-knowledge and act from that knowledge.
- Strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

The Arroyo Grande UMW Book Club has been meeting since 2010! We have read over 30 different titles. Most of the books we choose are recommended by the United Methodist Women’s Reading Program.

They are divided into 5 subject categories: Education, Social Action, Leadership, Nurturing, and Spiritual Growth. At times we have also read other titles suggested by the members of our group. Many of the books that we have read can be found in our church library. Jan Herber, our church librarian will be glad to locate them for you if you prefer to read them independently. Our AGUMW Book Club will resume meeting on **Friday, September 26th at 11:00 a.m. in the McMillen Room.** Please join us!



From UM Communications

Dear Friends of Imagine No Malaria,

The **World Health Organization** has declared an international health emergency, with 2,615 people infected so far and 1,427 deaths in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea and Nigeria.

As someone who is interested in the topic of global health, you might want to learn more about how we are addressing communications needs around the Ebola outbreak affecting our sisters and brothers in West Africa.

Bloomberg News reported that the Ebola outbreak is also affecting people infected with malaria. Many fail to seek medical attention for fear that they may have Ebola or that they may come in contact with the disease if they go to a hospital. The fact that it is the rainy season, when more malaria cases occur, compounds the problem.

Because Ebola and malaria have common early symptoms, such as fever, headache and vomiting, both those who are ill and healthcare providers may be confused about the cause of illness.

While malaria is curable, Ebola is not. But there is real concern that the mortality rate from malaria may rise because patients will not seek treatment; therefore, it is critical to get accurate, life-saving messages to people in these areas. The Religious Leaders Task Force on Ebola in Sierra Leone, chaired by United Methodist Bishop John K. Yambasu, listed a comprehensive communications strategy as its first priority. This means disseminating messages in an environment where no infrastructure exists, using means that are relevant to the audience.

Communication and education are two of the four pillars of Imagine No Malaria used in the fight against malaria.

United Methodist Communications has provided a \$10,000 crisis communications grant to the United

Methodist Liberia Annual (regional) Conference to help share health-education messages through printed fliers, banners and radio. A second \$10,000 grant will go to Sierra Leone. United Methodist Communications also has reached out to church leaders in Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire, and is exploring the possibility of using other channels to communicate more widely.

The Foundation for United Methodist Communications has established an emergency communications fund to provide communications support during situations such as this so funding will be readily available in the event of a crisis or disaster. Help is needed to ensure that we can meet these needs as they occur.



Map courtesy of Google Maps

Your gifts to Imagine No Malaria are also helping in the fight against Ebola because together, we've improved access to healthcare. A strong health infrastructure, consisting of trained healthcare workers and well-equipped facilities, is better able to handle other health threats as well.

But this situation also underlines the ongoing need to continue our malaria work. We have made great strides in reducing deaths from malaria, but we are still working toward the goal of elimination. To give to Imagine No Malaria, visit ImagineNoMalaria.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p>  <p>Church Office CLOSED</p> <p>1 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 7 PM Trustees</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM EOC Health Screening (N/L) 9 AM UMC of AG Serving Team Prep (CH) 9:15 AM Storytime with Pastor David & Goodie Bear (N) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9:15 AM Storytime with Pastor David & Goodie Bear (N) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM UMC of AG Serving Team leave to serve 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 7 PM SPRC Meeting (MMR)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Spirit Day at AG UM CC - wear your shirts!</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3:30 PM AG UM CC Closed</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team S/U (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team (S)</p> <p>1 PM Imagine No Malaria Ride Greeting (CH)</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Church Council</p> <p>Rally Sunday 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Pastor's Day off 10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program 12 PM Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Support Group (MMR) 1 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 6 PM AG MS Support Group (MMR)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>AG UM Children's Center Pony Pictures 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM UMW Steering (L) 12:30 PM Alzheimer's Association Care Giver Support Group (MMR) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>AG UM Children's Center Pony Pictures Patriot Day 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR Newsletter</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11 AM Drive Way Clothing Give-A-Way 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>14</p> <p>130th Celebration Luncheon and Welcome 2014 New Members</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Congregational Care Team</p> <p>ONE SERVICE at 10:30 AM 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Pastor's Day off 10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program 1 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10 AM Congregational Care Team (L) 10:30 AM Communication s 1:30 PM Preschool Board - open session ; 2:30 PM Preschool Board - closed session (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 7 PM JOY Circle (home of members)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM UMC of AG Serving Team Prep (CH) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10:00 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM UMC of AG Serving Team - leave to serve 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 7 PM AG UM Children's Center Planning Meeting (MMR)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 12 PM Alzheimer's Support Group for Adult Children of Parents (MMR) 6:30 PM Cowboy Church at the Clark's Ranch</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:30 AM UMM Breakfast Meeting - Guest speaker TBA (CH) 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team S/U (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team (S)</p>
<p>21</p>  <p>8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 9:30 AM Pancake Breakfast 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Pastor's Day off 10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program 1 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>First Day of Autumn 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM Mary-Martha (MMR) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Mission Team (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 6:30 PM Church Council (MMR)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>AG Harvest Festival Weekend</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 11 AM Book Club (MMR)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>AG Harvest Festival Weekend</p> <p>10 AM AG Harvest Festival Parade 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 4 PM Messy Church Event</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Communications Team</p> <p>8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Pastor's Day off 10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program 1 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L)</p>	 <p>SEPTEMBER</p>			



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

Camping, a concert, and cases (of water). Wow, I can't believe that summer is over, although the youth are probably more upset than we are about this. The youth had a wonderful time at both junior and senior high camp this year. It was bittersweet with the loss of Debbie Tallant but they enjoyed getting to meet up with old friends and make some new ones as well. It was even said that there were conversations with Brits. Ask a youth what that means. Thanks again to everybody that helped to make this possible: the UMM, UMW, the endowment board, and the congregation. Without your help the youth would not be able to have this time of fellowship with other believers and have this chance to strengthen their relationship with Christ.

We were very lucky to also get to have *Unscene Patrol* play a free concert in our sanctuary. We had 86 people attend (which more than doubled what we had for Lybecker). The band was great and they can hardly wait to come back soon. Thanks to the Ballaghs for hosting the band.

We are glad to welcome new members, Nathan, Josh, and Izak Lozano to youth group.

By the time you read this we will hopefully be halfway to our goal of water for Harvest Festival. Please remember to bring in those cases of water. Harvest Festival is September 26-27. We can always use help in the church booth on Friday and Saturday and also with passing out water on Saturday.



Big congratulations to Ryan Odom for his first year as a junior counselor. You did an awesome job and your campfire testimony rocked!!! Word was you were a favorite among the junior higher.



News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, *chair*

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

Many things to report this edition...so read carefully so as not to miss out. 1.) Blanket Campaign, 2.) Imagine No Malaria, 3.) Laptop needs for Haiti students, 4.) Layette Items for NOME, 5.) Special Giving totals for 2014.

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE..IN ACTION

1.) BLANKET CAMPAIGN FOR CHRISTMAS

Wikipedia states "a type of bedding generally speaking a large piece of cloth intended to keep the user warm, especially while sleeping." Blankets were first made long before written history. These were likely made of animal skins, or lacking that resource piles of grass and leaves similar to small hay stacks and eventually grasses and reeds woven into blankets and capes which have been found with burial and ancient people around the world. Blankets, how many can you think of i.e. horse, electric, fleece, baby, Navajo, but none more appreciated than those that have been donated to the UMC to be given out to the needy of our community. We are giving them love, comfort, and warmth from your caring hands to theirs. Nov. 23rd will be Blanket Sunday, we will have a special blessing by Pastor David, before they are given out at the People's Kitchen Annual Christmas Party and by the 5 Cities Christian Women's Christmas baskets. Let's see how many we can collect between now and Nov. 23rd. They can be brought any time. Leave them in a basket in the narthex and we will gather them from there.

2) IMAGINE NO MALARIA

We had at least 15 walkers for the walk for No More Malaria. The amount reported/collected so far is \$1,970.

We also appreciate your support of the bake sale. We collected \$292.13 with this project. We began this process with raising \$501 at VBS. Our GRAND TOTAL do date is \$2, 763.13

Both projects help us as we strive to reach our goal of \$3,000 for the congregation.

3.) LAPTOP NEEDS FOR HAITI STUDENTS

Students in Haiti seeking to further their education are in need of laptops to help them with their studies. We are at the beginning of a another school year and the need is great. Do you have one that you are no longer using? We can get it refurbished and loaded with the programs they need. If so please speak to me or if you just want to fund one, that would be all right also.

4.) LAYETTE ITEMS FOR NOME

Current items they are needing to put layettes together include: ONESIES, TEE SHIRTS, SLEEPERS, COTTON FOR INSIDE, BIBS, SOCKS, RECEIVING BLANKETS, WASH CLOTHS, ODDS & ENDS: TOYS, BOTTLES, PACIFIERS

5.) SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2014

Emergency Food Pantry	20.00
Human Relations Sunday	317.00
Imagine No Malaria	2,763.19
Native American Sunday	187.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	656.00
Peace With Justice	285.00
People's Kitchen Food	2,186.98
People's Kitchen Misc.	3,855.88
South County Food Bank	299.28
VBS	360.00
Wells for Africa	150.00
Youth Mission Fund	253.00
7 MONTHS TOTAL	11,333.33

Many hands can do many things!



*THANK YOU FOR YOUR
FAITHFULNESS.
YOU HAVE BLESSED MANY
OTHERS LOCALLY AND
AROUND THE WORLD.*

**Don't ask God to guide your footsteps,
if you're not willing to move your feet.**



Choir has begun with their first rehearsal on August 27th, at 7 PM in the Sanctuary. It is not too late to join us! Dust off the pipes and get ready for some wonderful worship through music and song! If you know someone who loves to sing, please bring them along.

We will hit the ground running getting ready for two big weekends in October.

First is **Rock The Block** October 10, 11 & 12. Sunday the 12th we will do a choir and handbell worship service.

The following **Sunday, October 19th** will be the **Cluster Choir** concert in Atascadero. So come and be a part of a fun group who love to sing to the Lord! - Julie Burns, Director



Handbell Choir is Back!

Sunday, **September 21st** our *Grande Ringers* will be playing during our worship services. This talented group of ringers practice on **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 PM**. To join, stop in and see us—we would love to have you.

IMAGINE RIDE

The Imagine Ride is a vision of Rev. Andy Mattick (Simi Valley UMC) in response to the conference appeal for funds for **Imagine No Malaria**. As a young missionary, Andy was diagnosed with malaria in 1996 while in Kenya.

Now, along with Layman Mark Witman, Andy will ride more than 550 miles from Paso Robles to Malibu and up to Bishop from September 6-12th. Together they hope to raise \$25,000 to save 2,500 men, women, and particularly children from malaria.

Our Church has already supported them from our Mission Funds for \$100. They will be riding through here on September 6th and will stop at our church at approximately 1-1:30 on Saturday, September 6th. It would be nice to have some folks meet and greet them and provide a refreshment, (Ice Cream suggested by Andy). He would be willing to share a part of his story with us.

So, I invite you to join me on **September 6 at 1 PM at Criswell Hall** and greet these riders and hear their story as they begin this journey. This will be the first day of their trip. We can send them off with good wishes and prayers for a successful venture. I expect if you wanted to donate to their ride, they would also be accepting of any donations.



MALARIA SUCKS!

Follow The Imagine Ride at imagineride.com

John Wesley's Rule

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.



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Senior Pastor:

Rev. David M. Burgeson

Missionary (retired):

Judy Atwood

Office Administrator:

Sarah Burgeson

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*

Bishop: Minerva G. Carcaño

District Superintendent:

Rev. Dr. Cedrick Bridgeforth

AG UM Children's Center

Director: Madrigal Quaglino

E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net

Office: (805) 481-2223



Chair: Joe Brown

Members At Large:

Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Pastor David Burgeson, Sarah Burgeson, Virginia Mothes, and Judy Leonard.

Layout Editor: Sarah Burgeson

Proofing Team: David Beaman, Judy Atwood and Judy Leonard.

Other contributors:

- Varied Teams/Committees

Deadline: Noon on September 12th.

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



August 2014 Report

Trustees Report Tom Egan, Chair

- Parsonage Fund took a slight hit from \$158,382 to \$155,299.
- We are still over budget but close, budget for 2015 is \$47,376.
- The vacant lot is clean. Now the trash/weeds need to go into a dumpster. We need a sign for that lot.
- Solar panels are a no go. One company says we need more square footage for the panels. Another company says that they are unable to find a company to buy the system from and then rent it to us. But, rent would be way to high.
- Water usage is still high even though we have really cut back. I'm not through.
- Finance Committee needs a secure fenced space to store finance records.
- We still have a not been paid for voting booth space usage
- We need a sign for Messy Church.
- Information for Safe Sanctuaries needs to be issued to certain people and all new rules must be followed.
- Center light in the sanctuary is still out and needs to be fixed.

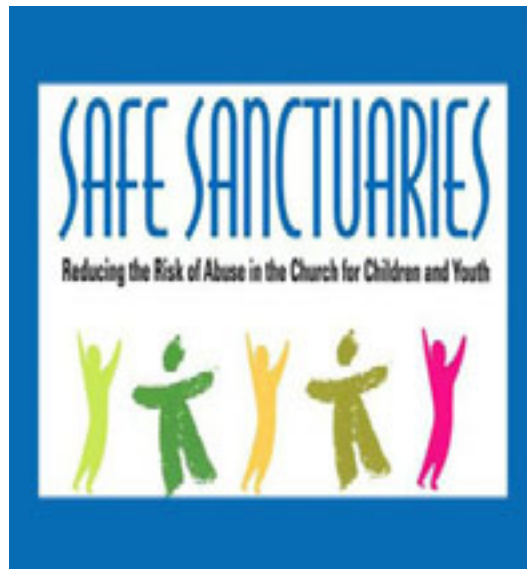


Hilde Hollinger	9/3
Ellie Asprion	9/4
Marj Cawelti	9/5
Carleen Minkler	9/6
Calvin Thompson	9/6
Kay Walker	9/6
Sally Weitkamp	9/13
Alice Addison	9/14
Bob Atwood	9/14
Peggy Bridges	9/14
Bob Thronson	9/16
Mark Schaffer	9/16
Betty Ann Quintana	9/18
Jan Treat	9/18
Peg Gallop	9/21
Christina Bailey	9/23
Judy Atwood	9/26
Claire Jacob	9/29
Jeremy Burns	9/29



Did we miss a birthday?

Contact our church office...we need you to fill out an information form for you and your family.



First UMC of Arroyo Grande is a Safe Sanctuaries Church

What is Safe Sanctuaries?

Safe Sanctuaries is an overt expression in making congregations **safe** places where children, youth and elders may experience the abiding love of God and fellowship within the community of faith.

We are updating our policies in accordance with the Global United Methodist Church. Thanks to our volunteers for your cooperation.



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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INSERT

Children's Center Chronicle



Saddle up and join us!

**Cowboy Church
at the Clark's Ranch
September 19th
6:30 PM**



Join us for some of Miss Connie's Cobbler, campfire sing-a-long, fellowship and a message by Pastor David.

Don't miss it—this is always a blessed event!