

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

# Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

February 2015



## Super Chili Bowl Sunday is Coming!

On Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> the United Methodist Women will be selling yummy homemade **Chili and Corn Bread**

for you to take home and enjoy as you watch the Super Bowl football game. What a great way to effortlessly entertain your friends as you watch the Big Game! And you will be supporting all the mission work of the United Methodist Women at the same time!!

A container holding 4 cups of chili (either with beans or without) and 2 corn bread muffins. Tickets available at the door. We hope to see you there!

## Rain Gutter Regatta and Taco Dinner February 27



Join us for dinner at 6:30 PM. Cost is \$5 per person. Races will begin around 7 PM. This event is another opportunity to have fun, build new friendships, and strengthen the heart of our school community.

Proceeds will help raise funds for the Children's' Center staff to attend the "California Association for the Education of Young Children" (CAEYC) conference in Sacramento on March 5,6, & 7.

## Sweetheart Breakfast



*My Funny Valentine...sweet comic valentine...you make me smile  
with my heart...*

*Unforgettable...that's what you are...*

*Mona Lisa...you're so like the lady with the mystic smile...*

*When I Fall In Love...it will be forever...or I'll never fall in love...*

*It's Very Clear...our love is here to stay...*

## **Do These Song Lyrics Bring Back Memories?**

**IF SO, YOU WILL WANT TO HEAR THEM IN PERSON AT THE ANNUAL UMM  
SWEETHEART BREAKFAST!**

**Saturday, February 14, at 9 AM in Criswell Hall.**

Come Fellowship, Get Acquainted & Spread Love on Valentine's Day. Tickets are \$10 per person—come as a couple or on your own. Members and non-members welcome!

# Shepherd's Notes

Friends:

As you have heard, we have a new face in our church office. Meet Frances Robertson. She will be with us on Sunday, February 8 at the Staff Appreciation Potluck after the second

service. Please give her a warm welcome. I want to share with you some information about her for us to get to know a little bit about her.

In her letter of introduction, Frances wrote to us:

*“On the work experience and skills side, my most recent long-term position was with the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center in SLO where I served for over ten years. In this small-staffed but highly successful non-profit organization I served as director of finance and donor services, as support person for a myriad of administrative duties, and for nearly a year as interim executive director during an executive director search. Since then I have worked both part-time and full-time temporary jobs.”*

*“My office skills include writing, editing, donor database work, various accounting programs, spreadsheets and reports, donor gift accounting, tracking and correspondence, and interfacing regularly with donors and other professionals. I also have experience in education and in family and individual counseling earlier in my career. I have held positions requiring complete confidentiality. In addition, I have very reliable attendance, good interpersonal skills, and work as a team player.”*

*“For my knowledge of church-specific administrative practices, liturgy, and language/vocabulary, I want to let you know that I have been an active church member all my life. As a 12-14 year old in Los Osos I provided the service music and accompanied the choir at Trinity Methodist Church (where I was baptized) during the building and first six months of the church’s existence. My family moved to SLO and of course I relocated, where I was a active in the Methodist Church there, MYF and the college program. I moved out of state, returning 15 years later, and have sung in my local choir (St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church) for many years and participated in volunteer church leadership service positions. I definitely know that I have the ability and interest to learn whatever is necessary to serve you well. My interest is in serving all in your congregation as appropriate.”*

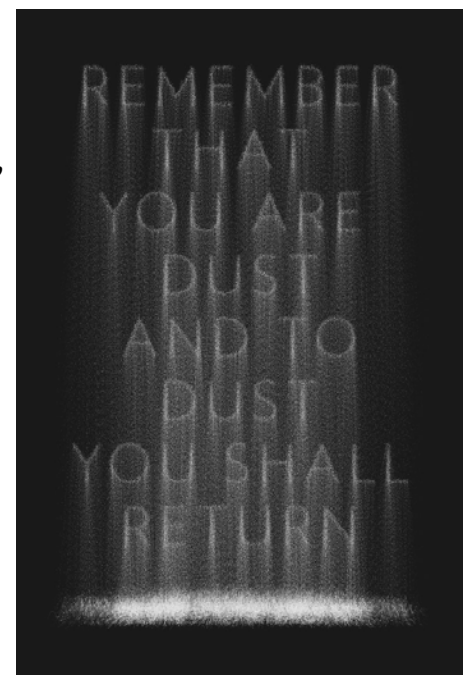
Additionally, LENT is on its way and begins with Ash Wednesday (February 18). This is a season of preparation for the Easter celebration. Consider this comment someone said, “we confront our mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith.” Ash Wednesday is about death, first of all, because this journey of being born anew to a living hope in Jesus Christ requires that we also die with him, “buried with him in baptism.” Starting with powerful reminders of our mortality reminds us our work of accompanying others toward baptism and personal spiritual disciplines during this season are not a kind of “self-help” or “up by our own bootstraps” exercise. We do not “take on” spiritual exercises. We submit more profoundly to the use of the means of grace. We do not “make ourselves better.” Rather, we open ourselves more profoundly to the operations of divine grace. We do not “hang tight” to make ourselves get better. We let go, trusting God, through submitting to these means, to make us more holy.

“Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Together in ministry,



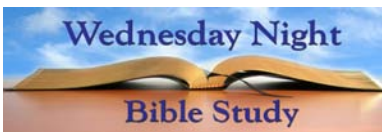
We remember, we face up, and we fess up. We are mortal. We cannot save ourselves from death, or the second death. And we are sinners... in the hands of a compassionate God who seeks to save us, not leave us in the paths of destruction to which we are otherwise inevitably heading.





**Mondays at 7 PM**

Women come to pray together in the Sanctuary.



**Adults at 5:45 PM**

(See schedule at right)

**FREE Fellowship Meal at 5 PM**

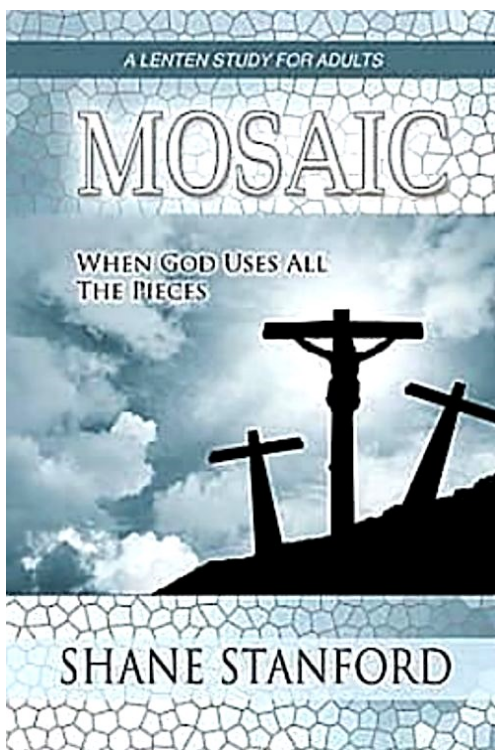


**Fridays at 8:30 AM**

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
Sunday, February 1	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Sermon Based on Mark 1:21—28
Wednesday, February 4	• 5:45 PM Adult Study
Sunday, February 8	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Sermon Based on Mark 1:29—39
Wednesday, February 11	• 5:45 PM Adult Study
Sunday, February 15	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Sermon Based on Mark 9:2—9
Wednesday, February 18	• 5:45 PM Lenten Adult Study Session One: When God Uses Our REBELLION • 6:45 PM Imposition of the Ashes
Sunday, February 22	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Sermon Based on Mark 1:9—15
Wednesday, February 25	• 5:45 PM Lenten Adult Study Session Two: When God Uses Our RESTLESSNESS



**Our 2015 Lenten Study**

**MOSAIC When God Uses All The Pieces**

**Begins February 18<sup>th</sup> — Ash Wednesday**

**5:45 PM in Criswell Hall**

MOSAIC by Rev. Shane Stanford examines how the God of the universe uses the broken pieces of our lives to reframe our purpose, turning our discarded hopes and dreams into something beautiful and useful—a mosaic in which God uses all of the pieces. The author says, "This journey will take us along the same path Jesus walked in the days surrounding his journey to Jerusalem. We will see the similarities to our own stories as well as the lessons we should pick, like pebbles along the path." This seven-session study, appropriate for both group and individual use, provides one lesson for each week in Lent. Each lesson includes a key Scripture reference, a brief reading, questions for reflection or discussion, a brief prayer, and guided helps for daily Scripture reading and additional reflection in the coming week.



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

David Bauer, *publicity*



United Methodist Men's  
Annual Sweetheart Breakfast is Coming!

February 14—see cover for details.

*Sweetheart  
Breakfast*

## TOP 10 THINGS YOU CAN TRY FOR THE LENTEN SEASON



10. **Try an electronic fast.** Give up TV, Guitar Hero, texting, tweeting, e-mail and all things electronic for one day every week. (or everyday of Lent!) Use the time to read & pray.
9. **Start a prayer rhythm.** Say a prayer every time you brush your teeth, hear an ambulance, or check your e-mail. Before you text someone, pray for them.
8. **Read one chapter in the Bible each day.** (Matthew's a good book to start with. Psalms, too.)
7. **Forgive someone who doesn't deserve it (maybe even yourself.)**
6. **Give up soft drinks, fast food, tea or coffee.** Give that money you save to help folks in Haiti or others in crisis.
5. **Create a daily quiet time.** Spend 30 minutes a day in silence and prayer.
4. **Cultivate a life of gratitude.** Write someone a thank you letter each week and be aware of how many people have helped you along the way.
3. **Be kind to someone each day.**
2. **Pray for others you see during the day** as you walk around town, to and from classes, or drive to and from work.
1. **Volunteer one hour or more each week** with a local shelter, tutoring program, nursing home, prison ministry or a Habitat for Humanity project.

For full article and other ideas — visit [alivenow.upperroom.org](http://alivenow.upperroom.org)

Article entitled: "Lent 101" by Rev. Penny Ford is the pastor of a small UMC church in Carrollton, Alabama.



How YOU can Help:

Our Congregational Care committee has received several requests from family members of our shut-in members and from the shut-in members themselves to have regular visits from a member of our church. Would YOU be willing to commit to visiting a member on a regular basis?

The Congregational Care Committee will provide training to make you feel more at ease. If you are willing to provide care and support to one of our members, please stop by the Congregational Care Table in Criswell Hall during coffee hour or contact any member of the Congregational Care Committee or call the church office.

There is also need to provide meals to members who are ill or have had surgery, etc. If you enjoy making casseroles or soups and would be willing to be "on call" to make such a meal, please sign up at the Congregational Care Table. Be a part of the "Meals on Methodist Wheels"!

Patti Melsheimer, *Chair*

**Our team needs 2 people to help out with our Congregational Care Table after either or both worship services on Sundays.**

**If you are interested, the tasks will include:**

- After first service setting up the table with cards, etc.
- After second service, taking down the table and mailing cards.
- For both services the team needs people to help circulate cards and gather signatures from our church family.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this ministry. Contact Buffy Prestemon.



**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”

Sally Weitkamp, Publicity



**UMW Sunday** On Sunday, January 18th, we celebrated United Methodist Women’s Sunday. What a joy to see so many of our women participating in both services. Our

guest speaker was the Rev. SonHye Kim. Her sermon “Press On” was based on Philippians 3:12-14. Kudos to the Lord’s Crew and Chancel Choir for their beautiful singing and to the Bell Choir for the wonderful music. Eva McClure and Barbara Reineke received Special Recognition Pins for their years of dedication and support of Arroyo Grande United Methodist Women. At this special service our 2015 Officers were introduced and installed.

Thank you! Thank you! To the congregation and our members, for all the support you have shown this past year for our fund raising events.



**UMW Fundraising** Our Baskets Auction in May, our Summer Social Salad Luncheon in August and Virtual Tea in November were successful because of you!

With our members’ pledges and our fundraising projects we raised over \$5,000. Sixty percent, \$3,500, was sent to the Santa Barbara District UMW to be forwarded to the Women’s Division. That money will be used for National and International mission projects.

The remaining forty percent, \$2,400, was spent locally as follows:

- \$800 Five Cities Christian Women Food Pantry
- \$800 Lucia Mar Grover Beach Elementary School
- \$800 People’s Kitchen



**United Methodist Women’s Book Club**

January’s read was “The First Phone Call From Heaven” by Mitch Albom, author of “Tuesdays with Morrie.” It was quite thought provoking and turned out to be a bit of a mystery, as well as, a tale of faith and redemption.

In February, we will be returning to the list of books recommended by the UMW Reading Program. These books are divided into five categories: Education for Mission; Leadership Development; Nurturing for Community; Social Action and Spiritual Growth. We are strongly encouraged to choose books from each category during the year. Many of the books we choose are available from our Arroyo Grande Public Library.

Join us on the last Friday of the month at 11 AM in the McMillan Room. All are welcome to this lively and thoughtful discussion. For more, please contact Patti Melsheimer.



**Your 2015 Arroyo Grande UMW Steering Committee**

- Mary Hawkins, *Chair*
- Virginia Mothes, *Vice Chair/Program*
- Carla Gootee, *Secretary*
- Betty Ashton, *Treasurer*
- Patti Melsheimer, *Book Club*
- Barbara Reineke, *JOY Circle Rep.*
- Carla Gootee, *Esther Circle Rep.*
- Jan Herber, *Mary-Martha Rep.*

**JOY Circle**

- Barbara Reineke, *Chair*
- Rose Ann Steiner, *Sub Chair*
- Marian Balster, *Secretary*
- Nancy St. Laurent, *Treasurer*
- Betty Lorenz, *Sunshine*

**Esther Circle**

- Carla Gootee, *Chair*
- Carleen Minkler, *Secretary*
- Pauline Castillo, *Treasurer*
- Mary Kelleher, *Sunshine*

**Mary-Martha Circle**

- Sally Weitkamp, *Chair*
- Leona Beerup, *Secretary*
- Betty Ashton, *Treasurer / Sunshine*

## A Note From Our District Superintendent

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*“The itinerant system is the accepted method of The United Methodist Church by which ordained elders, provisional elders, and associate members are appointed by the bishop to fields of labor. All ordained elders, provisional elders, and associate members shall accept and abide by these appointments. Bishops and cabinets shall commit to and support open itinerancy and the protection of the prophetic pulpit and diversity.” Paragraph 338, The Book of Discipline 2012.*

So begins the section of our Book of Discipline which outlines one of the most significant aspects of the life of the United Methodist pastor. Every actively appointed pastor can share the common story of “Getting the Call”. Sometimes with elation and sometimes deflation. Though at times the experience of such a call is so surprising or unexpected it may seem it was a knee jerk reaction or snap decision; nothing could be farther from the truth. The purpose of this letter is to try to add to our common understanding of how the itinerancy and appointive process are currently being lived out in the California-Pacific Annual Conference. (For a comprehensive read on this topic read The Book of Discipline paragraphs 338-400 and 425-430.)

### **Assumptions**

Before reviewing the process of itinerancy and appointment making, there are some assumptions that should be named. To begin with, we hold that open itinerancy is a good thing. It requires us as a church to be the healthy, growing, changing body of Christ by being open to newness and change. This is the creative process that keeps us relevant. We seek to match the gifts and graces of the clergy with the needs and abilities of ministry settings while at the same time remaining open and inclusive without regard to race, ethnic origin, gender, color, disability, marital status or age. This is a lofty standard, not without challenges, but worthy of a people who claim to be those with “Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors”. We also support intentional movement between districts, conferences and jurisdictions as an additional sign of our connectivity and inclusiveness.

### **The Appointment Process**

#### **Consultation**

Like a good stewardship process, the consultation process is year round and not for just one season or sudden need. The Bishop and cabinet rely on a number of consultative tools to collect information about the local appointment and the pastors of their districts. These are:

1. **Face to Face Meetings**: The primary tool in consultation is a face to face meeting with the District Superintendent (DS) and the SPRC of a local ministry. This might be at the annual Charge Conference, or at the request of the pastor, the SPRC or the DS.
2. **Pastor’s Appointment Request**: This annual form is a tool for tracking the pastor’s years of service in an appointment, family needs and situation, issues and concerns relating to the present and future appointment settings, and the clear statement as to the pastors input as to whether it seems best for the appointment for the pastor to Return, Move or sees Either as viable.
3. **The SPRC Evaluation**: This annual form accompanies the pastor’s form. It provides feedback as to the effectiveness of the ministry relationship, and goals for improvement as well as a description of the gifts needed and affirmed by the pastoral appointment related to their pastoral leadership.
4. **Local Church Profile Form**: Each year the local church should update their “Local Church Profile Form” and submit it to the District Office. This provides a critical “Snapshot” of the make-up of the congregation and staffing needs.
5. **Tables I, II, III**: Are the statistical tables each church submits annually. These tables offer a picture of the health and trajectory of the ministry setting. Information on patterns of membership, professions of faith, stewardship, apportionments, small groups, etc. are all indicators as to how the partnership between the pastor and the pastor’s charge is faring.
6. **MissionInsite**: *MissionInsite* is an online demographic tool subscribed to by the California-Pacific Annual Conference. This tool provides critical information about the changing nature of our communities and informs the direction the pastoral leadership and ministry community should take to remain relevant and missional to the neighborhood which surrounds them.

7. The Superintendents Appointment Census: Each year the District Superintendent performs a comprehensive “Census Review” of each local church and the pastors serving. This census is a collection of the data from all the sources mentioned above, as well as personal notes from conversations with the pastors and lay leadership. Characteristics of the congregation, concerns and affirmations are listed to be shared with the Bishop and the entire cabinet during the cabinet sessions prior to the appointment making cabinet meetings. The census is also a critical tool passed from the outgoing DS to the incoming DS, enabling the most informed transition possible.

### **Appointment Discernment**

1. Retirement Requests: The first order of business when beginning the appointment discernment process is to identify those churches that are “Clear Openings” due to a retirement. Retirements are granted when a clergy person who has reached qualified retirement stage sends a written letter of request for retirement to the Bishop at least 120 days prior to the date the retirement is to take effect (See paragraph 358 in The Book of discipline 2012 for full details).
2. Leaves of Absence/Changes in Conference Relationship: Paragraphs 353-357 also define additional categories that pastor’s might fall into which creates a clear opening for an appointment in the church they serve for the coming appointment year.
3. Filling a clear opening: At this point, the question is asked; “What are the needs of the church and what pastors are best suited to fill those needs?” This is where the communal knowledge of the Bishop and Cabinet comes into play. The goal is to put the right person in the right place. The initial resource for this is the list of those who reported they are ready to move, those returning from leaves, and those newly commissioned. Sometimes, the best qualified person is currently serving a church and not seeking to move. In this case the discernment is most challenging, as it requires an assessment of the impact of loss to one church and the depth of need in another church
4. Practical Issues: While it is true that all clergy sign on to be open to itinerate, we live in a day of dual careers, and dependent family members etc. The difficulty is discerning when a move is “inconvenient” and when it might be “catastrophic” to a family system. Every effort is made to work through practical issues in a move, keeping a priority on open itinerancy and the value of the pastor living within the community in which they are called to serve.
5. Discernment Prayer: Once a pastor has been selected for an appointment, the Bishop invites the host DS to pray for God’s discernment in the appointment. After a time of prayer and listening to God’s Spirit, the Bishop asks each DS if they felt a confirmation of the appointment in the discernment prayer time. If not, the process repeats. If the response is yes, the appointment is “discerned”. The next step is: “The Call”.

### **Making The Appointment**

1. The Call: The call to a pastor who is to be informed they have been discerned for a new appointment in most cases comes from their current DS. If it is to a new district, the current DS calls to inform the pastor they will receive a call from another DS. If the appointment is to another church in the district in which they currently serve, their current DS makes the call.
2. Timeline: The common timeline for the pastor to receive the news of a move, and share this with their family and be in a time of prayer is from 12-24 hours. In some circumstances a longer timeline is needed.
3. Introductory Meeting: When an appointment is moving forward, the DS sets an introductory meeting with the SPRC of the new pastoral charge. Note this is an “introductory meeting” not an “interview” where the SPRC selects and votes on a clergy candidate.

### **Announcing the Appointment**

1. When an appointment is set in place, a letter of announcement is sent to sending and receiving congregations for distribution, and to be presented usually by the SPRC Chair in the next Sunday service. This is intended to take place simultaneously so that each congregation becomes aware of the changes at the same time.
2. No appointment is final until confirmed by the Bishop at the Annual Conference Session.



## The Month of Love

Hello,

In February you will find stores decked out in all

red and pink with an abundance of hearts. This month also has the long Presidents' weekend, yet another commercial holiday. Very importantly, February has been set aside as Black History Month.

Morgan Freeman, a critic of Black History Month, said: "I don't want a black history month. Black history is American history." I agree with Mr. Freeman. As Christians, we must always be reminded that God loves us all, and that our diversity is important to all of us. Our sameness is also something to seek.

Last month, we heard the story of the woman at the well, who was a Samaritan. Jews considered them unclean, and any association with them was to be avoided. Yet, Jesus accepted water from her. Jesus offers this woman a gift of life. He offers a gift of love. He offers all of us that gift. It is true. Our gifts should not be given only at Christmas time, but throughout the year. I am hoping this month will be a time of focusing on the best love of all.

As we further our studies of the miracles Jesus performed, the children will be learning this verse, "My father is still working, and I am working too." (John 5:17) The children will be learning that Jesus shows us God's power in the world - the power that Martin Luther King had, the power that Rosa Parks had - the power that we all have. Mostly, I hope the children will see that they have power to change things that they see are wrong in this world. I hope they feel the power of God, too. May we all extend this month of love to this year of love!

May you feel the power God has given you.

Love and Hearts,  
Carolyn Russell

Interim Children's Ministry Director



As we began the New Year, we also began a new way of celebrating here at Arroyo Grande UMC. We created a JOY JAR. What is that you say? As Lay Leader, I would like to challenge us finding the joys in our everyday lives. These might include, but not be limited to, surprise gifts, the beauty of nature, lol (laugh out loud) moments, memories worth saving, daily blessings, answered prayers, celebrations, Bible verses, milestones in life, gifts of the spirit...you keep adding more. I feel confident that you will come up with ideas that I haven't thought of, but thought I'd list a few to help stimulate your JOYS. We will gather them each month and share them in the newsletter. You may share your name or not...your choice.

Find the jar in the narthex and drop your JOY in the jar. I will leave a basket with slips of paper and a pen if you need one or you can come with it prepared and just drop it in. Here are the joys from our JOY JAR at the time of the printing of this issue of the Cast A Net.

- Praise God that my daughter has completed her 1<sup>st</sup> semester of her 2 year RN training. She has also found and married the love of her life. "Life if God - God is God." (B.G. Perriguy)
- Thank God for such a beautiful day! (unknown)
- New great-grandson on the way for Bud and Betty Johnson. That makes 4 great grandsons. Praise God!
- Bless my church where I find ultimate Joy in Serving & Singing! My Family! My Friends! I am so Joyfully Blessed! (unknown)
- I'm grateful to be a part of United Methodist Women with all their friendship and Christian love. (Virginia Mothes)
- My son, Jim, has found a discussion group that will encourage and help him in mentoring 2 boys he has been mentoring for many years. (Bennie Duffin)
- It 's a joy that we are now using the cabinets in the Criswell Hall for our groups, not for storage! (unknown)
- Joy to see the hills turning so green after a long time! (unknown)
- On 12/28/14 there was a happy ending to one chapter in my life's book and at the same time there was an even happier chapter starting. (Michael Johnson)
- I'm joyful for my kids, my family, and my boyfriend, Michael Johnson and the Johnson family and just for everyone here at church for welcoming me with open arms and most of all for just being alive, living and breathing. (Niki Rodriquez)

I am excited to see how we fill the JOY JAR with the JOYS we have experienced each month.

Judy Atwood—Lay Leader



# 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. Road to Restoration: Haiti 5 Years Later
2. Giving Tuesday
3. Blanket Campaign
4. 2015 Mission Projects
5. Layette Items for NOME.
6. Special Giving totals for 2014.

## GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE..IN ACTION

### 1. ROAD TO RESTORATION: HAITI 5 YEARS LATER.

It has been 5 years since the earthquake of 2010 ravaged Haiti and commanded the attention of the world. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has been in Haiti since before the earthquake, and since that day, has worked tirelessly alongside the Haitian people to rebuild and restore community. Road to Restoration: Haiti 5 Years Later will take you on a journey into the UMCOR projects, partnerships, and relationships that have made the last five years possible.

### 2. GIVING TUESDAY DECEMBER 2

Thank you to those of you who participated in the Giving Tuesday. You can do your own giving to Global Ministries throughout the year. Simply go to the website and click on Advance Projects and seek out a project that is of special interest to you and follow the directions on making a gift.

### 3. BLANKET CAMPAIGN FOR CHRISTMAS

The blanket campaign for Christmas was a big hit for both the parking lot give away and the baskets provided by the 5 Cities Christmas Women. You helped bless more than 200 families in this way.

### 4. 2015 MISSION PROJECTS

The mission team discussed mission projects for 2015 when we met in January. You will be hearing more about them in the future, so keep watch. If you have any additional suggestions for the committee please let Judy know.

### 5. LAYETTE ITEMS FOR NOME

I believe it was a total of 6 boxes of layette items that we have sent to Nome Community Church UMC for their special project for new babies and their families. Thanks. The collection basket continues to be under the table at the mission board.

*Many hands can do many things!*



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

### 6. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2014

I want to let you know that during 2014, you helped to raise a total of \$19,722.10 for 18 different opportunities. This giving is all for non budget ministries. These were both local and global in nature. I continue to be impressed by the generosity of the congregation when the need is presented. This was all cash. I have no way to account for all the in-kind giving that was given as well.

We will begin our tracking again this month for 2015.

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**DON'T ASK GOD TO GUIDE YOUR  
FOOTSTEPS, IF YOU ARE NOT  
WILLING TO MOVE YOUR FEET.**

New Covenant Missionary:

Helen Sheperd (Mongolia)

Cal Pac Field Missionaries:

Charlie Brower (Alaska)

John Elmore (Chile)

Gary Locklear (North Carolina)

Cindy and Gary Moon (Thailand)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>11:30 AM Chili Soup-Bowl Sunday (CH)</p> 	<p>2 Pastor's Day off</p> <p>1 PM Adventures of Dr. Chess - Episode ONE (211) 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 6 PM Quilting with Gerry McGuire - AG Rec Department (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>3 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 Groups (L)</p>	<p>4 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM People's Kitchen Prep Day (CH/K) 9:15 AM Storytime with Pastor David &amp; Goodie Bear (N) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Study - Part 5 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p>5 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9:15 AM Storytime with Pastor David &amp; Goodie Bear (N) 10:00 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen - leave to serve 5:00 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room)</p>	<p>6 Spirit Day at AG UM CC - wear your shirts! 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3:30 PM AG UM CC Closed</p>	<p>7 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set-Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)</p>
<p>8 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p>  <p>11:30 AM Staff Appreciation Potluck (CH)</p> <p>12 PM Congregational Care Team (L)</p>	<p>9 Pastor's Day off</p> <p>12 PM Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Support Group (MMR) 1 PM Adventures of Dr. Chess-Episode 1 (211) 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 6 PM Quilting with Gerry McGuire - AG Rec (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>10 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 Groups (L) 7 PM Trustees (pending) 6 PM Arroyo Grande MS Support Group (MMR)</p>	<p>11 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 Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p>12 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 7 PM Finance (L)</p>	<p>13 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>9:00 AM UMM Sweetheart Breakfast</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>15</p> <p><u>Coffee Hour Host</u> Esther Circle</p> <p>8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p>  <p>3 PM Music for a Sunday Afternoon Pops Music by Sax and other musical ensembles</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>Presidents Day Offices Closed</p> <p>1 PM Adventures of Dr. Chess- Episode 2 (211) 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>17 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 1:30 PM Preschool Board - open session (MMR) 2:30 PM Preschool Board - closed session (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L) 7 PM JOY Circle (at the home of a member)</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM People's Kitchen Prep Day (CH/K) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Communications (L) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Lenten Study (CH) 6:45 PM Imposition of Ashes (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p>19 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen - leave to serve 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room)</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>21 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set-Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)</p>
<p>22</p>  <p><u>Coffee Hour Host</u> Communications Team</p> <p>8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>12 PM Worship Team Meeting (MMR)</p>	<p>23 Pastor's Day off</p> <p>1 PM Adventures of Dr. Chess - Episode 3 (211) 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 6 PM Quilting with Gerry McGuire - AG Rec (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>24 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 1 PM Alzheimer's Support Group for Adult Children of Parents (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L)</p>	<p>25 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM Mary-Martha (MMR) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Lenten Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p>26 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room)</p>	<p>27 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3 PM Graveside AG Cemetery (Hughes)</p>  <p>6:30 PM Rain Gutter Regatta &amp; Taco Dinner (CH/K)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 AM Conference Lay Servant Ministry Event (Vista UMC)</p> <p>11 AM Glen Hughes Memorial (S)</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>



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**Praise Team Director:** Susan Coho  
**Organist:** Don McGuire  
**Choral Pianist:** Dennis Eiler  
**Multi-Media Director:** Mike Coho  
**Handbell Choir Dir.:** Leonard Lutz  
**Christian Education Directors:**  
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 OPEN POSITION, *Youth*  
 Carolyn Russell, *Children (Interim)*

**Bishop:** Minerva G. Carcaño  
**District Superintendent:**  
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**Deadline:**  
**February 13<sup>th</sup> at Noon**

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



**Announcement of Next North District Superintendent**

The United Methodist Church  
 Los Angeles Episcopal Area  
 Minerva G. Carcaño  
 Resident Bishop



I am pleased to announce that I intend to appoint the Rev. James R. Powell as the next Superintendent of the North District of the California-Pacific Conference effective July 1, 2015.

Rev. Powell comes to this new appointment having served in faithful and exemplary ways as Director of Evangelism at Mt. Pisgah UMC (Atlanta, GA), as Senior Pastor of Imperial Beach United Methodist Church and most recently as the long-term Senior Pastor of Palmdale United Methodist Church. He also served a season as Assistant Director of Camping and Outdoor Ministries in the California-Pacific Conference.

Rev. Powell earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from San Diego State University (San Diego, CA) and a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology (Atlanta, GA), as well as completing advanced studies in church leadership at Southern Methodist University (Dallas, TX).

I am inspired and encouraged by Jim's commitment to the local church, his strong pastoral leadership skills, and his deeply connectional spirit. I have every confidence that he will strengthen the work of our Cabinet through the skills, wealth of ministry experience, and great gifts and grace that God has blessed him with.

As we prepare to welcome Jim to our Cabinet want to express profound gratitude to God for the servant leadership of the Rev. Dr. Cedrick Bridgeforth. During his term on the Cabinet he has served both the Los Angeles and the North District. He has also served as Dean of Cabinet, gaining the respect and admiration of his colleagues in the California-Pacific Conference as well as from throughout the connection. Christ's spirit within him and his many gifts have blessed us all. We know that God will continue to use him in amazing ways in his next appointment.

Please join me in praying for these servants of God in this time of transition.



Margaret Coombs	2/1
Devin Paredes	2/2
Barbara Reineke	2/3
Isabella Russell	2/3
Matthew Williams	2/2
Guy Oats	2/4
Betty Ashton	2/5
Mark Moore	2/6
Betty Johnson	2/7
Wayne Huggins	2/8
Victoria Gandy	2/9
Bennie Duffin	2/10
Mike Johnson	2/10
Paul Collagan	2/16
Irene Kliesch	2/19
Peter Quaglino	2/21
Anna Prestemon	2/22
Maddy Quaglino	2/22
Michelle Paredes	2/25
Sean Treat	2/27
Jackie Jackson	2/27



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



# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

275 North Halcyon Road  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
Address SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit us on the web at [worshipweekly.com](http://worshipweekly.com)

REPENTANCE &  
FORGIVENESS  
of SINS  
will be PREACHED  
in his NAME  
to all nations...  
LUKE 24:47

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- UMW Super Bowl Chili
- Rain Gutter Regatta & Taco Dinner

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What better way could there be to say thank you than to have a good ol' fashioned, United Methodist potluck?

### Staff Appreciation Potluck Luncheon Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 AM

So come fill your spirit and your belly this Sunday. Help us show these people how much we appreciate all the at they do for this church and God's ministry.

See the sign-up sheet following the next few Sunday services and let us know what you can bring. We hope that you will join us!