


“Know Christ, Grow in Christ, Go—Share Christ.”



Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande APRIL 2016



Everett Lee Taylor Scholarship Applications Now Available

High School and College Students:
The ELT Scholarship applications are available on the church website at worshipweekly.com and in the church office.

You may apply for a scholarship if you:

1. Plan to or are attending an accredited university or college, community college, or technical school;
2. Have maintained at least a 2.5 total GPA;
3. Have been involved in the Arroyo Grande United Methodist Church;
4. Will attend the institution in the Fall of 2016;
5. Complete the application, including two letters of recommendation (first time applicants), personal essay, and attach an official transcript of completed coursework. Check application cover sheet for details.

Deadline: May 15, 2016

Questions? Talk to Nancy Gerrish or Judy Leonard
Students may apply for this scholarship more than once provided they have maintained a minimum 2.5 GPA in their college work.



SUNDAY SCHOOL EGG HUNT HELD ON PALM SUNDAY




Children’s Education Director, Carolyn Russell, tells us, “Children related the egg to a beginning of new life – much like the new life we all have been given. “

.....SPECIAL EVENTS.....THINGS TO DO.....HAPPENING IN APRIL.....MARK YOUR CALENDAR.....

<p>Saturdays, April 9 and 16 Lay Servant Classes 9 AM to 3 PM at FUMCAG</p> <p>Sunday, April 10 Native American Awareness Special Offering</p>	<p>Sunday, April 17 UMM 5th Annual Taco Buffet 11:45 to 1 PM Cost: Adults: \$8, Kids under 10: \$4</p> 	<p>Sunday, April 24 Children’s Center Sunday</p> <p>Children sing at the 10:30 Service, followed by an Art Show and Ice Cream Social 11:30—12:30 PM</p>
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275 North Halcyon Road . Arroyo Grande . CA 93420 . (805) 481-2692



From the Pastor

...After 8 months...

A pastor steps into a church to get acquainted with the people, premises and programs. Who is here? Where have they been? Where are they now? Where do they want to go together as disciples of Jesus Christ? July 19th, I met a warm, welcoming worshipping community with high-level commitment to Christ, the church and each another. I met a congregation with a heart for outreach that engages and makes a difference in the lives of people in need and I met a dedicated staff offering their gifts in ministry as well.

While a pastor gets acquainted, *joys* are obvious and *concerns* begin to show themselves slowly but surely over time---needs for organization, structure, leadership, and training, needs for accountability, creativity in communication and updating for the sake of relevance. "Needs" are apparent before they can be met, because relationships take time and pastor/staff and people must be in a loving, trusting, mutual relationship with one another to effectively move forward in important ways. With the need for a relational foundation, things move slowly at first, and it isn't obvious that that snail's pace is deliberate and methodical.

Finally! Eight months in, we have enough relationship to advance the cause! Some pastors move and shake. I choose a non-cataclysmic path and witness to my belief that abiding change happens with less fanfare and better results when we build those relationships first.

Think of it as a "love bank". When a new pastor makes brash, bold moves before making significant deposits in the "love bank", it doesn't go well. At the first sign of dis-ease, parishioners begin to withdraw *their* deposits from the love bank. If there isn't enough love, care and kindness in the bank, there isn't enough grace to weather seas of change. We have made our initial deposits in the Love's Bank. Relationships are growing. Two mugs sit on my counter. One says "*It is what it is*" and the other says "*Make it happen!*" Let's accept where we are and create the new together!

November's meetings with a brand new Nominating team were premature. I didn't know anyone well enough to help move things along. It's time to jump in again. And it's time for a candid, plain-speech stewardship campaign (April-May), a solid and decisive visioning meeting (May) in order to spell out clearly where we are and what we need to do, and the addition of new people to our both administrative and program teams.

Our Administrative groups are good---Church Council, Staff Parish, Finance and Trustees. They can be great. We need a Finance Chair and we need a Treasurer. We need a strong financial base. The budget cuts already made are not enough. We have yet to resolve our serious short-fall. That reality puts pressure on the way we do business together. When things are tight, it ups the ante on anxiety and tests our Christian character as we cooperate with limited resources. We need to educate people into the process and flow of decision-making in the UMC, shifting responsibility back to the Church Council and Trustees in order that we don't have little pockets of people wielding power here and there, but move together in unity as the Body of Christ. We need a clear, updated vision to guide staff and laity in our "churchwork" and in carrying out the "work of the church", i.e. mission, ministry and outreach. Nominating can put the right people in the right place at the right time to strengthen AGFUMC, but not without vision and direction.

Alongside these Administrative groups, our program committees, Music & Worship, Education, Missions, and Communications need bolstering and inspiration too.

"Not a Visioning Day!" "We just did that!" Though it hasn't been long since the church had a Visioning Day, it's time to do it again in this new chapter in tandem with new leadership and to set in place patterns of accountability and follow through once we reach consensus on what it is we value and want to do together. Just a few thoughts for your cogitation!

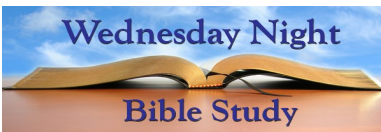
May Easter Blessings continue to come your way!

Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

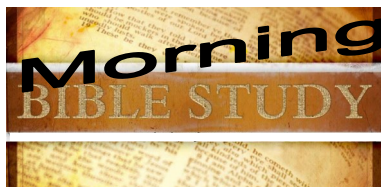
Rev. Mary Birgelaitis



Women's Prayer
Mondays at 7 PM
 Women come to pray together in the Sanctuary.



Adult Bible Study at 5:45 PM
FREE Fellowship Meal at 5 PM



Fridays at 8:30 AM
 Join us in the Library for Bible Study, discussion, coffee, & friends!



Dates	Topics and Schedule
Sunday, April 3 Second Sunday of Easter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis— "BEYOND THE SHADOW" Scripture: John 20:19-31, The story of Thomas
Wednesday, April 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study
Sunday, April 10 Third Sunday of Easter Native American Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis— "LEARNING TO SEE" Scripture: Luke 24:13-35, The walk to Emmaus
Wednesday, April 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study
Sunday, April 17 Fourth Sunday of Easter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis— "SOUL CONFIDENCE" Scriptures: Psalm 23, John 10:11-18, Jesus as Shepherd
Wednesday, April 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study
Sunday, April 24 Fifth Sunday of Easter Stewardship Kick-off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis — "ALL OF US" Scriptures: 11 Corinthians 8:1-15, Mark 12:41-44, Stewardship
Wednesday, April 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study

APRIL LITURGISTS	
April 3	
8:30 a.m.	—Joe Brown
10:30 a.m.	—BG Perriguy
April 10	
8:30 a.m.	—Jan Treat
10:30 a.m.	—Alice Addison
April 17	
8:30 a.m.	—Larry Baughman
10:30 a.m.	—Judy Leonard
April 24	
8:30 a.m.	—Sharon Roemer
10:30 a.m.	—Virginia Mothes

NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS SUNDAY
APRIL 10
 The United Methodist Church includes approximately 18,000 Native Americans.
 More than 5 million Native Americans in the U.S. live on reservations in some of the most desolate and difficult regions.





Val McClure, publicity

IT'S TACO BUFFET TIME AGAIN !

Sunday, April 17th, from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm will mark the 5th Annual Taco Buffet for AGFUMC sponsored by the UMM.

This popular and yummy luncheon will feature a big taco made into the form of a bowl. Over 15 items are available to fill your bowl from the "Buffet". Some of the items include hamburger, beans, salsa, cheese, olives, onions, and sour cream. Coffee, Tea, and Lemonade will be available to those eating at the church. Take home will be available.

Tickets will go on sale April 3rd in Criswell Hall. Tickets will also be available at the door the day of the event.

COST: \$8 Adults; Kids (under 10 years) \$4.

Bring a friend or neighbor to the second service and treat them to a great lunch.



UMM TO "HIT THE ROAD"

The second attempt to visit the Camp San Luis National Guard camp north of San Luis is scheduled for **Friday, May 20th**. UMM members are asked to be in the Church parking lot at 10:15 am to board a Ride-On Bus for the trip. There will no charge for the transportation which has been arranged by Paul Holden, our UMM Vice-President. Those who want to drive themselves need to be at the main gate at 10:50 am. You will be directed to parking on the base. The group will eat lunch in the new million dollar dining-hall at a \$7:50 charge. A tour of the entire base, including the shooting range, will be aboard a large military bus.

Don't miss this one! Sign up now with Wayne Huggins as space is limited; then put Friday, May 20th on your calendar.

Men of the Church not active in UMM are also invited to attend.



JUNE IS BBQ MONTH



Sunday, June 5 is scheduled for the Annual All-Church BBQ.

This popular event takes place right after Church at 11:45 am and features BBQ Chicken or Tri-Tip (cooked over Oakwood in a BBQ Pit). Included in the meal: Beans, Cole Slaw, French Bread, Cupcakes, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Lemonade.

The BBQ is open to all church families and members and friends of the church. **Take-Out is available.**

COST: \$10 Adults, Youth (under 10 years) \$5. **TICKETS** are available starting May 15th in Criswell Hall. Tickets will also be sold at the door the day of the event.



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

in the global ministries of the church."

Sally Weitkamp, Publicity

"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

REPORT ON UMW WORKSHOP ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

What a fabulous day we had on Saturday, March 23th at our Disabilities Workshop. We had people from San Luis Obispo, Los Osos, and Atascadero as well as twenty-two members from our own church in attendance.

Our first speaker was Dr. James Weitkamp, an optometrist from Arroyo Grande. He gave an informative and entertaining program about eye functions and eye diseases and how we can reach out to help people who come to our church with visual challenges.

Karen Scott, a truly well-educated and skilled audiologist from San Luis Obispo, followed James. Karen discussed our human hearing system and the many new and inventive hearing aids. She also mentioned ways we can make our church more helpful to people with hearing challenges.

After a delightful lunch and fellowship time, our first afternoon speaker was Rebecca Wilber, a mother of a child with Autism. Her mother, Barbara Reineke, introduced her. Becky opened our minds and hearts to children with special needs. She told us of some of the challenges these children and families must face. When these children are uneasy in new situations they may often act up and may be judged as poorly disciplined while the parents get dirty looks from passers-by. It is sad to be judged by strangers who don't realize the true situation. This is where our church comes in. We can provide a place where parents can come to be renewed through Christ's love, and their children can feel God's love and how special they are in HIS eyes as they are welcomed and loved by the congregation.

Dr. Sarah Willet, our next speaker, has numerous degrees in Physical Therapy, including a master's degree and a doctorate degree. Sarah's topic was mobility. Her presentation was especially helpful to those of us from Arroyo Grande. She came to our church and brought a friend who uses a wheelchair. They went through our church facility and looked for ways we could make this church more accessible to people in wheelchairs. We received many compliments on what we have already implemented. (Great handicapped parking; easy access into our church and sanctuary; hand presses to open the door; wide aisles that will accommodate wheel chairs and walkers; rails leading up to the altar; hearing devices; large print bulletins; and our communion in the pews for those with mobility issues.)

Our final speaker for the day was our own Lucy Jacob who is an Occupational Therapist, CHT, who specializes in hand disabilities. Lucy made it apparent that when a person loses the use of a hand or both due to an accident or ailment like arthritis, life becomes very complicated and challenging. She taught us some exercises to keep our hands flexible. She showed us various aids to make reaching, gripping and other daily activities easier for those of us who have hand issues.

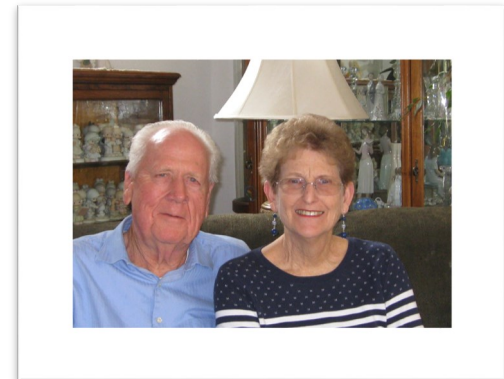
There was so much learned, so much love present, and so many ideas to bring to our churches. Thank you to all who planned in his event, prepared food, and participated to make this workshop a great success.

—Sally Weitkamp



Here it is April already and it will soon be May. Circle your calendars for the 7th of May for our special Mother's Day Luncheon, when we honor Mothers, Grandmothers, Great Grandmothers, Aunts, Cousins, Sisters, Special Friends, Daughters and Grand-Daughters and Great-Grand-Daughters—and any other Special Lady you would like to honor on this day!

*VISITING THE THRONNISON FAMILY
AT THEIR
QUIET AND PEACEFUL HOME*



The trip to their home took only eight minutes from my home on a route I *did not know existed*. The home is positioned to enjoy spectacular views and the manicured surroundings are impressive.

Bob and Mary joined AGFUMC in 2006 and are well recognized by the church family for participation and for their time and service in supporting the church missions and goals. Mary is very focused on the Pre School program and joined the Pre School Board in 2006. She has been chairperson of that board since 2012. She regularly fills in when staff is short-handed. Bob and Mary also work closely with the needs of the Ashtons and the People's Kitchen by preparing casseroles weekly and by assisting when the donation distribution events are held for needy citizens in our community. "Stepping up to fill a need" is always a positive gesture and motto that can be rewarding and fulfilling.

Mary grew up in Exeter, CA in the San Joaquin Valley, attending elementary through junior college schools. She graduated from Whittier College and earned her teaching credentials, then taught in public schools in Exeter for 31 years. She and Bob moved to Arroyo Grande in 1999, where she taught in private schools, tutored students and rose to the position of Director at Pacific Coast Christian School. Her interests and hobbies include sewing and quilting, early morning exercising, and Bible study with her church friends and members.

Their daughter, Susan, graduated in four years at Westmont College, Santa Barbara. She worked ten years as a Travel Consultant with Gulliver Travel in San Luis Obispo. She chose to continue the family tradition of her mom and her aunts by becoming a Special Education Teaching Aid in Grover Beach, CA. She is currently pursuing a Master's Degree and additional teaching credentials.

Bob was born in Los Angeles, attended junior high and high school in Pasadena and graduated from Pasadena City College. He enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1959 and served two years active duty and six more in reserves. He and his family bought a ranch in Exeter and for 25 years grew Thompson grapes for wineries, peaches, and plums. He "branched out" to real estate sales and remains active after 27 years in the Arroyo Grande area. Bob has served on the Church Finance Committee. He played basketball in college and also enjoyed bowling. One favorite event was catching a 90 lb. sailfish on a fishing trip to Mazatlan in the Gulf of California. He and Mary have enjoyed interesting cruises to Mexico, Alaska, New England and the Caribbean. A trip to Denali Park offered up front and close access to moose and bears. Bob is currently being a good citizen who is doing the hard work of removing all the turf / sod on his property and replacing it with drought tolerant plantings. The large lot surrounding their home has required a LOT of shovel work that he has done along with his twin brother. His brother and sister-in-law live with them in their home.

We enjoyed an hour and a half together discussing our life experiences and our church commitments and progresses. *Their reputation* of being involved, caring, and contributing members preceded our visit together. It was a pleasure for me to become acquainted with such well-versed and knowledgeable fellow church members.

David E. Beaman 03/2016

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President, Paul Holden

March 2016—The Latest from the Trustees



- We received most of the new entry way mats that will be installed by the Wednesday men's work crew.
- We received a bid of \$16,200 for a new ductless heating and cooling system for the Children's Center from Mitchell & Power of AG. This is \$9,000 less than any previous bids. It will allow each room to be climate controlled separately. This project will be funded with the use of the Donald McGuire bequest.
- Trustees President contacted six vendors and obtained three quotes for the installation of a Solar power system. The lowest bid came in at \$62,000, more than \$10,000 less than the nearest competitor. The proposed solution would meet 102% of the Church's current electrical needs. Therefore the investment would immediately begin paying itself back, saving the Church approximately \$900 monthly for next 20-30 years. Trustees were all in favor of this proposal and would look to fund it from the Parsonage fund account. If approval is given by the Bishop and Cabinet to use the Parsonage Fund for this expenditure, Paul will present this recommendation to Church Council for adoption. The vendor has been invited to come to the next Trustee's meeting for a meet and greet discussion. An agreement and installation plan should then be forthcoming.
- Trustees President has obtained signed Church Facility Use agreements with all parties using the Church on a reoccurring basis and they are now on file.



The Wednesday Work Crew would greatly appreciate any volunteers for "weeding duties" around the Church.

We love the spring rain for our flowers and hydrating our planet—but so do the WEEDS!

Please volunteer to help our Work Crew.

And we give a grateful THANK YOU to this hard-working Crew!



Caring Congregation Committee

Patti Melsheimer, Chair

Did You Know?? Many visitors decide in the first 10 minutes after entering a church for the first time whether they will return or not. There are many ways that we can encourage first or second time visitors to return.

Here are a few suggestions:

1. Greet visitors when they first arrive—in the parking lot or as they arrive at the door.
2. Escort newcomers to the nursery, classrooms, coffee hour, etc. Don't just point the way or give directions.
3. Adopt the "rule of three"—talk to visitors in the first three minutes following the service instead of greeting your friends.
4. Enact the "circle of ten" rule—greet anyone, member or guest, who comes within ten feet of you.
5. Try saying, "I don't think we've met before..." if you are not sure if the person next to you is a member or a visitor.
6. Introduce them to other members who may have common interests or live in the same area.
7. Invite them to an upcoming event and offer to pick them up.

Let's all reach out and encourage our visitors to become regular attendees. That way we will all be a part of a "Caring Congregation".



Welcome to Spring!

Our March Easter event was so much fun for the children! As they learned about the serious side of Jesus' story, kids also rejoiced with an Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday. Children related the egg to a beginning of new life – much like the new life we all have been given. The important lesson taught, as Mary Magdalene first experienced, was that Jesus lives now! Just as Easter eggs may hold prizes, our biggest prize we find in Jesus' love is his beautiful promise of everlasting life to us.

April takes our studies on the road to Emmaus when Jesus appears to some of his followers. The story of doubting Thomas will be talked about – with the importance being that we do not need to see Jesus to believe he is alive. They will also hear about the Great Commission when Jesus tells his disciples to tell everyone about him. The point that will be stressed is that Jesus is always with us. We will end the month from the book of Acts emphasizing the act of sharing. Just as early Christians share what they had with one another, so can we share with others in this modern day.

Our Sunday school is growing, and we hope you will share about our program. If it is in your heart to help, we always welcome assistance with our program.

Blessings to you this spring!

Carolyn Russell
Children's Ministry Director

Welcome to Sunday School



Welcome
Spring

FIRST UMC OF ARROYO GRANDE JOY JAR

HE IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN INDEED!

I hope you are finding yourself more aware of the blessings and joys that come into your life. The JOY JAR remains in the Narthex for you to place your listing of Joys. In our busy lives it is good to slow down a little and recognize what Joys we really have. Paper and Pens are there for your use. I will look for them in the jar.

New Joys:

- * The Gugelers were happy to have family visiting.
- * Pam Bauske was thankful for cards, calls and prayers for her and the family.
- * Alice Addison's brother-in-law is home and recovering from his surgery.
- * A warm welcome to our visiting friends. It is good to have you with us.
- * New church directories are ready for picking up. A BIG THANKS! To Val McClure for seeing this project through!
- * Choir and Congregation are pleased that Julie is back in the choir loft.
- * Special thanks to Rex Miller and Jamie Foster for filling in during Julie's recovery from knee surgery!
- * Kerren Brown's grandson has progressed to being able to eat food!
- * Nancy St. Laurent is back following foot surgery.
- * Dave Bauer is a new grandfather to Weston.
- * Happy to have visitors from Ventura.
- * Warm welcome was given to John Elmore who shared his mission work in Chile.
- * Sharon Roemer's grandchild and family are back in their home following flood damage.
- * Ruth Mandac shared her sister's surgery was successful and she is recovering.
- * Joe Brown had successful surgery on his eye.
- * Praise Team did a wonderful job sharing the Easter Joy at the 8:30 service.
- * Thanks to Pastor Mary for blessing us with God's message for us.
- * Chancel Choir led in Easter Joy at the 10:30 service.
- Hallelujah Chorus! What a way to celebrate the end of the wonderful services.

I hope you will continue to recognize your JOYS and share them with us.

Blessed Easter.
Judy Atwood, Lay Leader



News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, *chair*

MISSION TEAM: April 2016

Judy Atwood

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Native American Ministries Sunday, April 10 2. John Elmore's School Project 3. Noisy Offering Update 4. Central Coast Mission Team 5. Any ideas for a new mission project. 6. Special Giving Totals

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

1. NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY, APRIL 10 Our Giving Allows Native Americans to Encounter, Worship and Serve Jesus. When you support Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. And you empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ. Dr. Richard Twiss, a member of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate from the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota, asked, "Will we be allowed to develop new ways of doing church that honor God's purposes for the creative expression of our cultures? Will new ministry partnerships and coalitions form? Will you help be a part of this wonderful process of reconciliation, restoration and release?" Say yes.

2. JOHN ELMORE'S SCHOOL PROJECT: He shared with 30 individuals a ministry in Chile. He coordinates Volunteer in Mission Teams to come and work on projects. He shared about their high school and the needs of the school. If you are interested in supporting this ministry you may mark your gift Advance # 131097. It will help them to make needed improvements and improve the education possible with additional opportunities.

3. NOISY OFFERING UPDATE:

Thank you for your great response to the noisy offering. The children had great fun collecting this past time. Our total now is \$683.50, which is enough to help 34 families gain in supporting their family and having a healthier life. We will continue to do this on the second Sunday of the month. So be ready to greet the children with your coins, or quiet money as well!

4. CENTRAL COAST MISSION TEAM...If you are interested in going to UMCOR West Depot on May 15th-May 21st. Look for info on Mission Table.

5. NEW IDEAS FOR MISSION PROJECT: Share an idea with us.

Many hands continue to do many things.



6. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2016

Human Relations Sunday	288.00
Noisy Offering	207.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	420.00
People's Kitchen food	619.06
People's Kitchen Misc.	1,345.00
South County Food Bank	119.05
2 MONTHS TOTAL:	\$2,998.11

**A THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION.
DON'T ASK GOD TO GUIDE YOUR FOOTSTEPS, IF
YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO MOVE YOUR FEET.**

 Sunday	 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday
					1 Spirit Day at AGUMCC Wear Your Shirts! 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3 PM Set Up for Wizemann reception 3:30 PM AGUMCC Closed 3:30 PM AGUMCC Staff Development-4 PM-5:30 PM (MMR)	2 11 AM JoAnn Wizemann Memorial (S,CH) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)
3 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Coffee Hour: Finance Committee	4 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class--G McGuire 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	5 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room) 7 PM Trustees (MMR) ?? verify	6 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir	7 8 AM People's Kitchen Prep--Leave to Serve 11:15 AM 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Finance Team (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room) 6 PM Worship Team (MMR) ?? verify	8 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)	9 9 AM-3 PM District Lay Servant Classes (CH, S) 2 PM Gold Coast Chorus Concert (set up 2 PM, event 3 PM) (S)
10 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Noisy Offering Native American Awareness Sunday 11:45 AM Caring Congregation (L) Coffee Hour: Church Council	11 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class--G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	12 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 9:30 AM UMW Steering (L) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room)	13 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)	14 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Finance Team (PS) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room) 7 PM Church Council!--(MMR)	15 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) Noon Deadline newsletter articles (Office)	16 9 AM-3 PM District Lay Servant Classes (CH,S 9-3) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)
17 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Coffee Hour: UMM Taco Buffet 3 PM SLO County Band Concert (S,N,CH) Set Up 1:30 PM	18 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class--G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	19 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 1:30 PM Preschool Board - open (MMR) 2:30 PM Preschool Board - closed (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room) 7 PM JOY Circle (at home of a member)	20 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Mary-Martha-Esther (MMR) 10 AM Communications Team (L) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)	21 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer(L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room)	22 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 9 AM AGUMCC Set Up for Children's Center Sunday (CH) 11 AM UMW Book Club (MMR)	23 7 AM Handbell Festival Area 12 (S,CH)
24 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM AGUMCC Children's Center Sunday--art show & ice cream social Coffee Hour: UMC Children's Center	25 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class--G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	26 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room) 5:30 PM Center for Family Strengthening Training 6-8 PM (CH)	27 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)	28 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer(L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room)	29 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)	30 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)

Meet Our
CHURCH STAFF

Church Office: (805) 481-2692
E-mail: fumcag@sbcglobal.net
Find us on Facebook at: **United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande**
www.facebook.com/fumcag

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis

E-mail: revmaryb@fumcag.org

Missionary (retired) / Lay Leader:

Judy Atwood

Office Administrator:

Frances Robertson

Website Manager: Jamie Foster

Choir Director: Julie Burns

Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler

Multi-Media Director: Mike Coho

Handbell Choir Dir.: Leonard Lutz

Children's Education Director:

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Bishop: Minerva G. Carcaño

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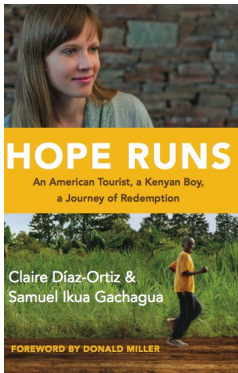
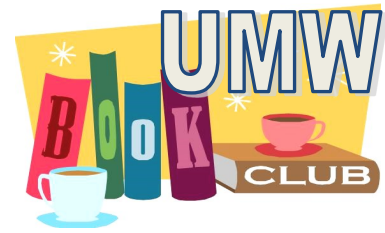
Deadline for May Issue

Friday, April 15 at Noon

PLEASE NOTE:

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

UMW Book Club: HOPE RUNS



The April book selection for the UMW Book Club is Hope Runs: An American Tourist, a Kenyan Boy, a Journey of Redemption by Claire Diaz-Ortiz.

This stirring memoir starts when Claire decides to stay overnight in a Kenyan orphanage before climbing Mt. Kenya. Little did she know that she would encounter a charming young boy, Sammy, who would win over her heart.

This quick read, told by both Claire and Sammy, shows the power of hope and a belief in God's power in lives.

If you are interested in reading this book, see Patti Melsheimer. Participants will discuss it at the next book club meeting on Friday, April 22nd, at 11 A.M.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU
TO DAVID ANDERSON
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DONATING THE COST OF PRINTING
OUR CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY



From the members of First United
Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande



Jack Cuddy	04/01
Janine Moore	04/01
Liz Gholson	04/03
Paul Holden	04/04
Patti Melsheimer	04/06
Laurie Moore	04/06
Pam Bauske	04/07
Grant Cuddy	04/08
Don Gugeler	04/11
Jack Moore	04/15
Randy Dobbs	04/16
Ryan Odom	04/24
Thomas Earley	04/28

**MILESTONES
DEATHS**

Richard Gainer
Betty David
John Neel

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

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 Arroyo Grande, CA 93420
Address SERVICE REQUESTED



Statements of Giving are available on request from the Financial Secretary, Virginia Mothes. Her email is virginiamothes@att.net. Alternatively, you may leave a request in her mailbox in the church office or a phone message for the financial office by calling 481-2692.

Please note that the statements are not available in the church office.

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Caring Congregation Committee

Have you received your new Church Directory??

If not, please pick one up when you are at the church. I think you will agree that it is a very nice looking directory. Many hands went into the creation of the directory.



Lynn Stewart entered most of the information. Val McClure and Joe Brown took photos of our members and friends. Val also designed the introductory pages and took pictures of the various groups and the pre-school teachers. Eva McClure and Patti Melsheimer went to the homes of the shut-ins to make sure they were also photographed. Proofing was done by Virginia Mothes, Judy Atwood and Frances Robertson. David Anderson of Central Coast Printers donated the cost of printing all 250 copies of the directories! The Caring Congregation Committee thanks everyone who worked so hard to make this directory such a lovely and useful document!