


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



Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande MAY 2016

“ALL OF US”

***“Many of us are more capable than some of us,
but none of us is as capable as all of us!”***

We pull together all year long—praying, participating, giving and serving! By the grace of God we make a difference. May is a time for all of us to pull together in particular ways by pledging our intentions for 2016-2017 giving and by participating together in strategic planning for our future.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2016-2017

We kicked off this year’s stewardship campaign on April 24th in worship. On May 1st after worship at both services a presentation was made to help you more clearly understand where we are financially. Stewardship Sundays continue both May 8th and May 15th, culminating as we celebrate our gifts on Sunday, May 22nd.

More detailed information on page 8



STRATEGIC PLANNING 2017 and BEYOND

VISIONING DAY

Saturday, May 14th
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
(lunch provided)

Elected leaders and interested church members will meet for a Visioning Session with Rev. Rick Blunt from the West Michigan Annual Conference who will facilitate our gathering and will preach the next day at both Pentecost services.

Please sign up ahead so we will know how many will be participating

Details about this session found on page 7



From the Pastor

“Mayday, Mayday, Mayday!”

May 1st is almost here. It's on Sunday this year. It dovetails with an informational meeting on our church finances which will take place immediately after worship at both services. Willing worshippers, all “prayed up”, are invited to remain in the sanctuary after the postlude for 15 minutes before heading to the coffee hour to hear where we are and where we will be, financially-speaking, when the fiscal year begins July 1, 2016. Without significant cuts in the budget and/or significant increases in income, the call is “Mayday!”

Mayday happens to be my niece's birthday. As a child in the Midwest it was an opportunity to practice giving. Since “*April showers bring May flowers*”, we gleefully delivered May baskets all over the neighborhood. On some college campuses Mayday is the occasion for untoward antics and mostly unacceptable behavior that has become tradition. Mayday is the name of a popular rock band in Taiwan, and of course you can look up the history of the first Mayday, but why would I choose the words “*Mayday, Mayday, Mayday?*”

Mayday is that phrase used to signal a life-threatening emergency and is used by aviators and mariners and in some countries firefighters, police forces and transportation organizations as well. It's always given three times in a row, “*Mayday, Mayday, Mayday*”. It is from the French “*m'aider*” meaning “*help me*”. SOS was the Morse code equivalent of the Mayday call.

Making a false distress call in the US is a federal crime carrying sanctions of up to six years imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$250,000 and restitution to the Coast Guard. Even in the church, I wouldn't throw the phrase around flippantly. However, the financial situation in this church (and in many of our congregations) *is* an emergency. Our situation is serious. The life, health, and well-being of the church are in jeopardy.

Beyond our upward call to the Almighty to come and help us, we must send out the SOS to one another because it is our task to put prayers, thoughts, and best efforts into action and create some more than minor miracles! God will make a way, but we must discern that way together.

God WILL make a 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!



MAY LITURGISTS	
May 1	
8:30 a.m.	—Joe Brown
10:30 a.m.	—Patti Melsheimer
May 8	
8:30 a.m.	—Mary Thronson
10:30 a.m.	—Judy Leonard
May 15	
8:30 a.m.	—Pauline Castillo
10:30 a.m.	—Virginia Mothes
May 22	
8:30 a.m.	—Joe Brown
10:30 a.m.	—Bernie Hawkins
May 29	
8:30 a.m.	—Sharon Roemer
10:30 a.m.	—Bennie Duffin



Dates	Topics and Schedule
Sunday, May 1 Stewardship #2 Communion-Ascension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis— "IN OUR HEARTS" Scripture: Acts 1:1-11, Luke 24:44-53
Wednesday, May 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study General Conference
Sunday, May 8 Stewardship #3 MOTHER'S DAY—FESTIVAL OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis— "I IN THEM" Scripture: Acts 16:16-34, John 17:20-26
Wednesday, May 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study <i>Half Truths: Everything happens for a reason</i>
Sunday, May 15 Stewardship #4 PENTECOST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Rev. Rick Blunt, preaching Scripture: Acts 2:1-21
Wednesday, May 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study <i>Half Truths: God helps those who help themselves</i>
Sunday, May 22 Celebration of Our Stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis — "FROM A GRATEFUL PLACE" Scriptures: Proverbs 8:1-4, Psalm 8
Wednesday, May 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study <i>Half Truths: God won't give you more than you can handle</i>
Sunday, May 29 Memorial Day Weekend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis — "BECAUSE OF THEM" Scripture: John 14:1-4, 25-27

WORSHIP IN MAY INCLUDES SPECIAL DAYS

Be Sure To Be With Us !

May 1 Communion at both services

May 8 Mother's Day

May 15 Pentecost with Guest Preacher, Rev. Rick Blunt, our Visioning facilitator

May 22 Stewardship Celebration of Gifts

May 29 Memorial Day Weekend

READY TO JOIN THE CHURCH ?

Membership Class

There are at least two people who are enthusiastic and ready to join this congregation. Maybe you are, too! If you are thinking about membership, please call the church office and let Frances or Rev. Mary B. know asap. If folks have never been a part of any church, we will do a longer class and help them get on board. If those coming in are transferring and know the ropes already, we will do a briefer class. In either case, we'd like to bring folks in soon, so let us know of your interest. —Rev. MBB



Val McClure, publicity

UMM GOES MILITARY

All members of the UMM, as well as any other men in the church, are invited to board the Ride-On bus for a great day of touring Camp San Luis Obispo, the National Guard Camp near Cuesta College, north of San Luis Obispo. The tour will take place on **Friday, May 20th** starting at **10:15 a.m.** in the Church parking lot. Men will have a choice of driving their own cars or taking a 15 passenger bus. Bus seating is limited to 15 persons. **SIGN UP FOR TAKING THE BUS OR DRIVING YOURSELF; WAYNE HUGGINS HAS THE SIGN-UP LIST.** He will be taking sign-ups starting Sunday, May 1st. The bus will load at 10:15 a.m. and will leave shortly thereafter. Those driving need to come the church parking lot at the same time to share a ride. Everyone needs to be at the main gate of the Camp by 10:50 a.m. Those with cars will be taken to a parking lot on base. The tour will start with lunch in the million dollar dining hall. Cost \$7.50 per person. This is the only money needed; the tour is free.



You must have ID with you to get on the base.

Vice President Paul has gone to a great deal of trouble to arrange this tour, so don't miss it!

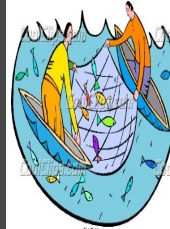


ALL CHURCH BARBECUE IS ON THE MENU FOR JUNE 5th

For over 30 years the UMM has welcomed summer by presenting an All-Church BBQ. This yummy event will be held on **Sunday, June 5th** from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Menu will include BBQ chicken or tri-tip, beans, cole slaw, French bread, and cupcakes for dessert. Those eating at the church will be offered coffee, lemonade, and tea. Take-out will be available. Tickets go on sale Sunday May 15. The UMM ask that you help by buying your tickets early to help those organizing the event be able to tell how much meat to order. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door the day of the event.

Adults: \$10, Youth (under 10 years): \$4

For further information see Val McClure or Wayne Huggins



UMM GOES FISHING

When the Methodist Men (UMM) say they are "going fishing" (with the exception of Bernie Hawkins) what they mean is "taking time off".

The BBQ (see left) will be the last major all church event of the UMM until September. We hope you have enjoyed the special events of this UMM Program Year with the men's organization, which included all church events: **Pancake Breakfasts (2), Sweetheart Breakfast, Annual Taco Buffet, Annual All Church BBQ** and **Annual Christmas Jubilee**. Members of the UMM who attended the regular Breakfast Meetings also enjoyed a visit to the Police Department and a trip to Camp San Luis Obispo in May. Any man in the church is welcomed to join the group. There are no fees, only the cost of meals. So, until September— **UMM is "going fishing"** in July and August and will see you in September!



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



Our Annual Elegant Luncheon Honoring the Women of the First United Methodist Church, and their mothers, grandmothers, mothers-in law, daughters, grand daughters, great grand daughters, sisters, and friends and mentors, will be on *Saturday, May 7th, at 11:30 a.m.* You are encouraged to bring a loved one or a guest you would like to honor.

The theme this year is "Pennies from Heaven". We will decorate with pennies and chocolate coins, and we will have a wishing well. All wishes will be guaranteed.

Our luncheon caterer is Tina Moore. The menu is green salad followed by chicken breast in a Hawaiian sauce with rice pilaf. For dessert—a Chocolate Fountain with cookies and a variety of fruit for dipping under the foundation of chocolate! Cost for the luncheon is \$10 per ticket.



A special program will feature the "Mellow Fellows". They will be playing music from the forties, fifties and sixties. Members of the group are Don Gugeler, clarinet; Bob Moloznik, accordion; Pete Veneres, violin; and Barry Kaufman, mandolin.

This year we have a drawing for the beautiful king-sized quilt made by Hilde Hollinger and donated by her husband, Del. The quilt pattern is the triple Irish chain, and is on display in Criswell Hall on Sunday mornings prior to our luncheon. 'Opportunity' tickets for the drawing are sold for \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. The drawing for the winning ticket will be during this luncheon on May 7th, and adds to the fun and celebration of the event. *Please join us !*



Caring Congregation Committee

Patti Melsheimer, Chair

Last month this column provided some ideas on how to welcome visitors to our church. This month we are sharing some other insights on how to "grow" our church.

A recent report by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership stated that "In a rapidly changing world, thriving congregations are nearly ten times more likely to have changed themselves than are struggling congregations." So churches that grow have to change.

Did you know that three out of four people who attend church for the first time came because they were invited? Yet less than half of all church members say they have invited someone in the last year! Have you invited someone to our church recently? Or

have you invited a friend to come to other activities that happen at our church?

Often newcomers enter the life of a congregation through venues other than worship, such as service activities, fellowship, or community events. This is also an opportunity to invite someone.

Younger adults often feel unwelcome in a church because their lifestyle seems different from those of other churchgoers. How can we make these visitors feel a warm welcome?

If you have additional ideas on how to help our church grow, please share them with a member of the Caring Congregation Committee.

THE MELSHEIMERS HAVE TOURED ALL SEVEN CONTINENTS ON OUR EARTH



Patti and Dick Melsheimer recently accomplished their goal of touring Antarctica, the last of the seven World Continents they have visited. Getting there required flying to Buenos Aires, Argentina, then flying to Shira, the southernmost point of South America. The 21 member tour group boarded a sturdy ocean-going ship that crossed the sometimes treacherous Drake Passage that included 5 to 6 meter ocean swells as part of the 2 day crossing to Antarctica. Ancient Mariners referred to this area as "The End of the World". They were provided heavy parkas to keep warm in the frigid climate. They spent 5 days on Antarctica and viewed many species of penguins from a distance because protective precautions, such as cleaning boots going in, and going out, are mandatory to prevent disease outbreaks among the wildlife. The slogan is "Penguins Always Have the Right of Way". There were no trees or greenery on the terrain. One has to admire, and congratulate, our bold traveler friends who embarked on such a strenuous and unique outing.

Other interesting international travels include two trips to Africa; one, 20 years ago and a second 2 years ago, both to Tanzania with the main attraction of observing lots of wildlife. South America offered Peru and the Lost City of the Inca civilization, Machu Picchu, plus Galapagos with the prehistoric tortoises and Ecuador and the Andean Highlands. A Canadian train excursion included Vancouver, Ottawa and Quebec crossing the entire nation. The Trans-Siberian Railway across Russia included Moscow and Vladivostok, referred as "Russia's San Francisco". "Heli-hiking" carried them to the mountain tops of Canada in helicopters so they could hike back down on foot. New Zealand and Australia provided many features to enjoy including a 3 day hiking trip. France and England were favorite destinations, and in Germany they visited the former hometown of Dick's grandfather prior to his migrating to the USA in 1898.

They have also traveled extensively within the United States. Two highlights included hiking to the top of Mt. Whitney, the tallest mountain in the contiguous United States, and Dick described the somewhat "uncomfortable" but interesting experience riding in a mule train on a very narrow trail with minimal passage-way to and from the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

Patti was born in Oklahoma City, and lived there

until age 13 when her family moved to Montebello, CA, where she attended junior high and high school. She graduated from Chapman College (now University) with a degree in History.

Dick was born in Monterey Park, CA, attended the same high school with Patti and studied at East L.A. Junior College. He enrolled in Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering to assure his position in the family business started by his father in 1946. Patti and Dick married two weeks after graduating from college.

After their sons Eric and Peter were born, Dick started his own Horizontal Directional Drilling business in Alhambra, CA. In 1999 the family made the decision to bring the business to Santa Maria, CA. Their sons are now officers of the firm Melford-Borzall. Patti and Dick are very proud of the successes of the business ventures and having all of the family (including four grandchildren and their parents) living in San Luis Obispo County.

While the men of the family ran the business, Patti obtained a Master's Degree in Gerontology and worked in the retirement home industry in Alhambra at California Lutheran Home. She later managed a program for five southern California cities that provided meals at Senior Centers and home delivered meals for seniors.

Patti and Dick are very active members in FUMCAG since they joined our church in January, 2000. Dick has done lots of service ushering and has been seen tending the barbecue grills a great deal. Patti is chair of the "Caring Congregation Committee", UMW member, UMW Book Club member, Finance Committee member, and sings in the Chancel Choir. She enjoys doing "The Children's Moment" part of Worship Service.

Dick has organized and participated in an Outreach Program he founded to introduce local elementary, high school and junior college students to welding. He and his employees provide instructions and encouragement at school "Career Day" events to introduce young people to "making things with their own hands". Dick is pleased and proud of the interest shown by the participants.

Our very pleasant visit together was an interesting conversation of how enriching the travel experience gives you lifelong memories and valuable knowledge.

David E. Beaman, 04/2016

Strategic Planning Visioning Day

Where is God directing our church? God still speaks. Often God's voice is best heard when we gather together to think and dream with each other. That's what we're planning for Saturday, May 14. We want your voice to be part of the conversation: Where is God leading Arroyo Grande United Methodist? Please join us from 9am -- 2pm, with lunch and childcare provided.

The day will be filled with learning and activities through guided brainstorming and purposeful prioritizing. What does it mean to "Know Christ; Grow in Christ; and Go, Share Christ"? Are there new and exciting ways we can be about our mission that will better help us better impact our community and connect people to God? Who do we want to reach with the love of God in Christ Jesus? How will we measure and know when we are being effective?



Our facilitator for the strategic planning conversation is Rev. Rick Blunt, pastor of Okemos Community Church in Michigan. (Okemos is two miles from Michigan State University, so there will be some Spartan green.) Throughout his career Rick has helped congregations, both his own and others, to develop realistic, measurable goals that guide and focus a congregation's life. Rick will also preach on Sunday, May 15.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President, Paul Holden

April 2016—The Latest from the Trustees



- At our April meeting David Raichart from Phonton Brothers went over a proposed solution for supplying the Church's electrical needs with solar power. The Trustees learned more about the proposed project and had questions and concerns answered. Since then we have received the okay to utilize Parsonage Fund monies for the project from District Superintendent James Powell and Cabinet. The agreement with Phonton Brothers has been signed and installation should occur around the first week in June.
- A new access from Bennett Street to the storage yard is under development. This will allow the users freer access to the yard and lessen any potential adverse effects to the Children's Center.
- It was brought to the Board's attention that the last renters of Criswell Hall failed to close up and turn off the lights. This, along with a lax policy towards filling out the required paperwork when requesting facility use, will be examined at our next meeting. It is important that when requesting a new upcoming event be put on the Church calendar that a request for facility use is completed as well. Trustees must approve facilities usage well ahead of the event.



Dear Church Family,

The goal of this year's Stewardship Campaign is \$241,900. This is the amount we need to continue operating our church at its present level of staffing and expenses. This will be difficult, but not impossible to achieve. It will require a 13.6% increase from our current giving rate. In the current fiscal year, we expect to receive approximately \$213,000. The \$241,900 is not out of line with historical giving. In the 2014/15 fiscal year we received \$238,127. In 2013/14 we received \$273,940. Unfortunately, we have had a significant loss of members through death and moving over the past few years, so we will need increased contributions from remaining members and new members.

We have run deficits the past few years which have been funded from reserves and loans from the Endowment fund. We have used up our reserves and are close to the limit on how much we can borrow from Endowment. If we are unable to achieve our target funding, the church will have to make cuts in programs and staffing. Much of the Endowment is in restricted funds. Restricted Funds can only be used for designated ministries, such as the ELT Scholarship or Missions, and / or Church operations.

A special THANK YOU goes to the Trustees. If it were not for them the target would have been much higher. The renting of the vacant lot is expected to bring in \$7,200 and the Solar Power Project is expected to save approximately \$9,000 in energy costs.

Along with reduced spending, in 2015 positions were eliminated, including Adult Education Director, Organist, Youth Leader and Gardener, and less costly coverage has been put in place by cutting hours, using volunteers, and using a new constellation of musicians to create music for worship. These adjustments in spending have not been enough to meet budget for 2015/16.

Sunday, May 22 is Stewardship Sunday. Please prayerfully consider your church's needs when completing your *Estimate of Giving*.

You will receive a letter and an *Estimate of Giving* card in the mail, and cards will also be available at the church.

Grace and Peace,

Joel Anderson
Acting Treasurer



Welcome to Sunday School



It's May! Greetings!

This month, children are still focusing on how they can spread the good news. In Act 6:1-7, children will hear about the early church choosing seven people to oversee the daily distribution of food to the poor. Just as in modern times, the church was involved in feeding the hungry. There are different ways in which to serve God.

The next lesson is centered on Philip and the Ethiopian. Philip was willing to follow the spirit and found the opportunity to proclaim the gospel and spread the good news.

The following week the Pentecost lesson celebrates the birthday of the church! We can tell stories about God and Jesus to others.

Following Pentecost, children will hear about what it was like to be a Christian in the early days, when the followers of Jesus had to hide. We will discuss the symbols of Christianity and how we associate the cross with it today, although one of the earliest symbols was the fish!

Finally, children become familiar with the letters Paul wrote to Corinth, learning that every part of the body is important and has its own purpose. Even if one person is missing from the church, the church is not the same.

We are heading for the summer time, looking forward to more fun activities for children as well as a VBS in August!

We will be doing some fundraising and are looking for volunteers to help with our weekend program.

Happy Spring!

Carolyn Russell,
Children's Education Director





News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, chair

MISSION TEAM: May 2016

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Peace with Justice Sunday, May 22 2. John Elmore's School Project 3. Noisy Offering Update 4. PET Project and Central Coast Mission Team 5. Haiti Student Financial Aid. 6. Special Giving Totals

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

1. PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY MAY 22

Annual conferences keep half of this Special Sunday offering to fund local peace with justice programs. The other half goes to the General Board of Church & Society (GBCS) to fund U.S. and global work in social action, public-policy education and advocacy. Each year GBSC awards grants to Peace with Justice ministries around the world.

When you give on Peace with Justice Sunday, your gift makes possible critical kingdom work in the world.

Because you give:

- United Methodists spearhead a peace ministry uniting Arizona border communities.
- United Methodists in Liberia are equipped to implement the denomination's Social Principles to address social-justice issues.
- Pennsylvania students are educating their community about sex-trafficking at home and abroad.

2. JOHN ELMORE SCHOOL PROJECT: When the Mission Team met, we discussed how we might be a part of John Elmore's 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. We are sending \$1,000 to help. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, mark your gift Advance # 131097 so that we can be sure it is sent to the correct project.

3. NOISY OFFERING UPDATE:

Thank you for your great response to the noisy offering. Our total now is \$890.30, which is enough to help 44 families gain in supporting their family and having a healthier life. We will continue to do this on the second Sunday of the month through June. So be ready to greet the children with your coins, or quiet money as well!

4. PERSONAL ENERGY TRANSPORTATION AND CENTRAL COAST MISSION TEAM. We are also sending \$500.00 to each of these ministries.

Information is on Mission table.

5. HAITI STUDENT FINANCIAL AID:

We are also glad to be able to provide \$1,000 for financial aid for Haiti Students.

Many hands continue to do many things.



6.

SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2016

Human Relations Sunday	288.00
Noisy Offering	413.80
One Great Hour of Sharing	511.00
People's Kitchen food	671.40
People's Kitchen Misc.	2,001.00
South County Food Bank	171.39
3 MONTHS TOTAL:	\$4,056.59

**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	
<p>1 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Stewardship #2 COMMUNION—ASCENSION</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Worship Committee</p>	<p>2 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class--G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)</p>	<p>3 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)</p>	<p>4 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)</p>	<p>5 8 AM People's Kitchen Prep—Leave to Serve 11:15 AM 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 12 PM Preschool Staff Appreciation Lunch —1-2 PM (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room) 6 PM Worship Team (MMR)</p>	<p>6 Spirit Day at AGUMCC Wear Your Shirts! 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3:30 PM AGUMCC Closed 3:30 PM AGUMCC Staff Development-4 PM—5:30 PM (MMR)</p>	<p>7 11:30 AM UMW Mother's Day Elegant Luncheon (K, CH) Set Up begins 8 AM</p>	
<p>8 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Stewardship #3 MOTHER'S DAY—Festival of the Christian Home</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Board of Trustees</p> <p>11:45 AM Caring Congregation (L)</p>	<p>9 Pastor's Day Off 11 AM UMM Cabinet (L) 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class--G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)</p>	<p>10 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 9:30 AM UMW Steering Committee (L) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room) 7 PM Trustees (MMR)</p>	<p>11 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 11 AM Nominating (Lay Leadership Mtg) (PS) 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 (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room) 6 PM Worship Team (MMR)</p>	<p>13 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) Noon Deadline newsletter articles (Office)</p>	<p>14 9 AM—2 PM Strategic Planning Visioning Day</p> <p>5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)</p>	
<p>15 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Stewardship #4 PENTECOST</p> <p>Rev. Rick Blunt, Preacher</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Mary-Martha-Esther Circle</p>	<p>16 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class-- G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)</p>	<p>17 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 9:30 AM UMW Steering (L) 10 AM ELT Scholarship Committee (L) 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 (Handbell Room) 7 PM JOY Circle (Member's Home)</p>	<p>18 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Communication Team (L) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p>19 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)</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 10:15 AM UMM to Camp San Luis Obispo tour</p>	<p>21</p>	
<p>22 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>CELEBRATION OF OUR STEWARDSHIP</p> <p>Peace With Justice Offering</p> <p>Coffee Hour:</p>	<p>23 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 5:45 PM Quilting Class-- G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)</p>	<p>24 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 (Handbell Room)</p>	<p>25 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Mary-Martha-Esther (MMR) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p>26 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer(L) 1 PM Mission Team (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room)</p>	<p>27 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 11 AM UMW Book Club (MMR)</p>	<p>28 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)</p>	
<p>29 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Mary-Martha-Esther Circle</p> <p>Memorial Day Weekend</p>	<p>30 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office Closed 1 PM NO Emergency Food Pantry this week due to Food Bank is Closed-Re-open May 5:45 PM Quilting Class—G McGuire (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)</p>	<p>31 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)</p>	<p>From  To </p>				



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:
 Carolyn Russell
Bishop: Minerva G. Carcaño
District Superintendent:
 Rev. James Powell
AG UM Children's Center
Director: Madrigal Quaglino
E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net
Office: (805) 481-2223



Chair: Joe Brown
Members At Large (alphabetically):
 Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Pastor Mary Birgelaitis, Judy Leonard, Virginia Mothes, Frances Robertson.
Layout Editor: Frances Robertson
Proofing Team: Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Joe Brown, Judy Leonard, and Virginia Mothes.
Other contributors:
 Varied Teams / Committees
Deadline for June Issue
Friday, May 13th at Noon
PLEASE NOTE:
 Layout Editor reserves the right to cut and edit articles to meet space limitations.



**JUST MERCY:
 A STORY OF JUSTICE AND REDEMPTION**

Our exciting May book selection comes under the category of social justice. In his book, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, highly reputed lawyer, Bryan Stephenson, tells his personal story of fighting to fix our broken system of justice. He describes the lives of the poor and the wrongly condemned people that he has defended with passion and inspiration. Desmond Tutu describes Bryan as "America's young Nelson Mandela, a brilliant lawyer fighting with courage and conviction to guarantee justice for all." This powerful story should fuel some good discussion at our Friday, May 27th, UMW Book Club at 11 A.M. in the McMillen Room. Participants may check out a book through the library system or see Patti Melsheimer for a copy. Everyone is invited to attend even if you haven't come before.

Submitted by Judy Leonard

FIRST UMC OF ARROYO GRANDE
JOY JAR
ALL OF US –TOGETHER WE CAN SHARE OUR JOYS! I hope you are feeling the joy of sharing joys with one another. 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:

- * Betty Ashton shared that their son, Rick, is doing well after emergency surgery
- * Joy! My biopsy was negative...Tina Moore
- * Gladys Paulsen is celebrating the birth of Orion Loomis born April 4th, her 14th Great Grandchild!
- * Betty and Bud Johnson are celebrating the graduation of granddaughter Melinda from Pepperdine on April 30th
- * Don Gugeler celebrated his 91st birthday
- * Mike Rohla is grateful for successful knee surgery
- * Ann Smith and Jim Wilson are joyful about our engagement!

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

Directory
FREE !
CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORIES
 Now available in the Church Office
 One per member, please

JOIN IN ON A "THANK YOU"

 Here is a chance to give your own personal "thanks" to Dave Anderson and his Central Coast Printers for printing the Photo Directory at no cost to our church. A really big "Thank You" card is in Criswell Hall at the Caring Congregation table, awaiting your signature. Go in TODAY and give Dave your thanks!

Happy Birthday

Hilary Henderson	05/02
Susan Coho	05/03
Karen Wise	05/08
Doris Douglas	05/16
Vinnie Paredes	05/18
Paul Jacob	05/22

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

Coming
 Saturday, June 11
 11 AM to 2 PM
**PARKING LOT
 GIVEAWAY**
*For the Needy of our
 Community*
We are currently collecting:

- New Socks
- Clean Warm Clothes
- Sleeping Bags
- Backpacks
- Blankets, Bedding
- Toiletries, Children's Toys

**See the Ashtons if you can
 volunteer to help*
**Bring clothing donations to
 Criswell Hall, not to the Shed*

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www.facebook.com/fumcag



Everett Lee Taylor Scholarship Applications 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.

**TURN IN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION NO LATER THAN
 SUNDAY, MAY 15TH**