

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



Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande **SEPTEMBER 2018**

**COME ONE — COME ALL! To The All-Church Picnic
at the Elm Street Park, Sunday, September 23, at 1:00 PM**

The United Methodist Women is hosting the All-Church Picnic, supplying hamburgers and hot dogs, beverages and condiments. We will have a sign up sheet for chips, dips and finger desserts, such as brownies, cookies and your own special favorites.

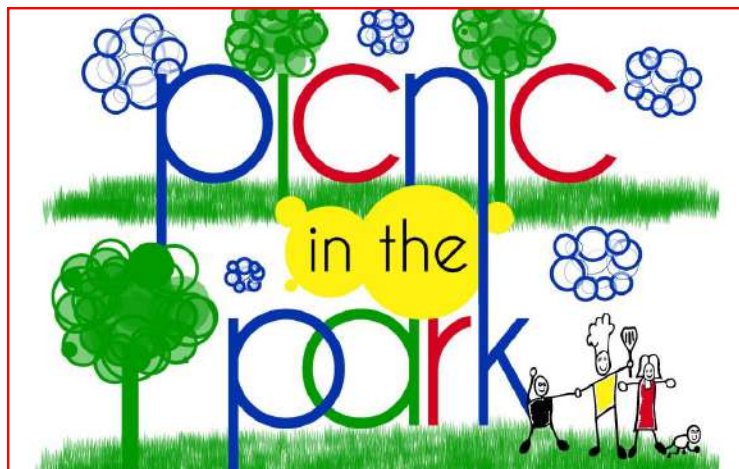


Besides a variety of games, we are having a cake walk where the person standing by a cake when the music stops will win that cake. There will also be a pie baking contest, and some lucky judges will

get to taste the delicious pie selections.

We will be asking for attendance sign-ups as tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children with under 5 years free. If you haven't signed up, it will be \$15 at the park as we need to

know how much to purchase ahead of time. We are starting the fun and feast at 1:00 PM after church. Parking is somewhat limited, so please plan ahead and carpool if you can.



Looking forward to a grand time for all—see you there!

~ Virginia Mothes, UMW Publicity



CASTLE CAPER

The choir and gang of the Arroyo Grande United Methodist Church present "Castle Caper" this fall. Tickets will be on sale starting the end of August.

Lee Fonseca is hard at work preparing the stage. Stay tuned for more details of the coming performance.

From the Pastor

SEPTEMBER SENTIMENTS

Most of us are long beyond school days when Labor Day Weekend signaled a return to the classroom and marked the unofficial end of summer, and yet, nostalgia remains! We aren't starting a school year in brand new clothes and shiny shoes or gathering excitedly with friends to chat about the summer, but September brings a change of pace for us even now. It IS a new beginning.

Along the Central Coast we need not be sad at the end of summer when it comes to changes in the weather. Though days are visibly shorter, our private paradise gifts us all year long, and retired folks can create lazy days *like* summer whenever they will. A tad chillier, to be sure, but always nice!

Our Program Ministry Team will be bringing on new events and activities as the year unfolds. You can look forward to new routines as you join in new activities and participate in fun events. Create some change that brings a little spice to life! It's a good time to make a resolution to exercise, too. For you champions who already exercise like pros, up the ante on your exercise. Let September be a turning point. Look back and give thanks. Look forward and say **"What can I do next that's new and gives me energy for life?"** The joy is in the journey.

Rev. Mary B.



A Day with Bishop Hagiya
2 Dates - 2 Locations

THE WAY FORWARD

Sat. Sept. 22 10 am—2 pm
Lancaster United Methodist Church
918 W. Ave. J, Lancaster, CA 93534
(Plus Church Leadership Rally)

Sat. Sept 29 1 pm - 3 pm
1st UMC of North Hollywood
4832 Tujunga Ave
North Hollywood, CA 91601





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



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



SEPTEMBER LITURGISTS

SEPTEMBER 2

8:30 a.m. ————*Sharon Roemer*
 10:30 a.m. ————*Barbara Reineke*

SEPTEMBER 9

8:30 a.m. ————*Joseph Brown*
 10:30 a.m. ————*Cristy Van Hook*

SEPTEMBER 16

8:30 a.m. ————*Ian Beard*
 10:30 a.m. ————*Rose Ann Steiner*

SEPTEMBER 23

8:30 a.m. ————*Joel Anderson*
 10:30 a.m. ————*Roger Sperling*

SEPTEMBER 30

8:30 a.m. ————*David Beard*
 10:30 a.m. ————*Judy Leonard*



Dates Topics and Schedule

Sunday, September 2 • **8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services**
 15th Sunday of Pentecost Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis
 Communion

Wednesday, Sept. 5 • **5:45 PM Adult Bible Study**
 UNAFRAID: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times
 by Adam Hamilton Session 1 of 5 Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent

Sunday, September 9 • **8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services**
 16th Sunday of Pentecost Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

Wednesday, Sept 12 • **5:45 PM Adult Bible Study**
 UNAFRAID: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times
 by Adam Hamilton Session 2 of 5 Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent

Sunday, September 16 • **8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services**
 17th Sunday of Pentecost Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

Wednesday, Sept 19 • **5:45 PM Adult Bible Study**
 UNAFRAID: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times
 by Adam Hamilton Session 3 of 5 Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent

Sunday, September 23 • **8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services**
 18th Sunday of Pentecost Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

Wednesday, Sept 26 • **5:45 PM Adult Bible Study**
 UNAFRAID: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times
 by Adam Hamilton Session 4 of 5 Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent

Sunday, September 30 • **8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services**
 19th Sunday of Pentecost Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY CLASSES ALSO RETURN ON SEPT. 5th
 SEE CALENDAR ABOVE AND SCHEDULE OF CLASSES
 FOR THE REST OF 2018 ON PAGE 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER



Val McClure, *publicity*

UMM HONORS WAYNE HUGGINS

The UMM Cabinet presented a plaque to Wayne Huggins on August 5th at the second service for his 10 years of dedicated participation in the UMM Cabinet as Treasurer for the group. Wayne can be found in many different roles in his Church service – THANK YOU WAYNE!

OCTOBER IS PANCAKE TIME

The first UMM pancake breakfast will take place on Sunday, October 21st from 9:30 to 12:30 noon. Breakfast includes pancakes (of course!), scrambled eggs, link sausage, fruit cup, and coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. Cost: Adults \$8, Youth \$5 and kids under 10 years FREE. Get your calendars marked for this October date and bring a neighbor or friend to the service with breakfast afterwards.



TRIP TO HEARST CASTLE



Planning is well underway for the UMM trip to Hearst Castle at Christmas. A 55-passenger bus will take the group to Cambria or San Simeon for a lunch snack, and then to the Castle. The tour will not include a lot of stair climbing, and participants will get to see the castle with its dozens of decorated Christmas trees and a professional acting group, dressed in 1920's costumes, having cocktails in different parts of the castle. Make your Christmas memorable by joining the trip. Sign-ups will be taken in October. Date, time and cost yet to be determined.

ADVENTURE TRIPS ARE ON FOR 2019

Paul Holden, Vice President of the UMM, is in charge of arranging UMM Adventure Trips. The first trip in 2019 is scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd. Some trips being considered are Vandenberg AFB, SLO Lighthouse, Getty Museum. Watch the Castanet for details. Any suggestions, anyone?

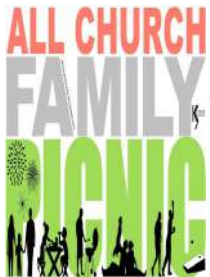




United
Methodist
Women

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



Sunday, September 23rd
ALL-CHURCH PICNIC
Elm Street Park, 1:00 PM
See cover story for details!



Saturday, November 3rd
ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
Criswell Hall, 9 AM to 3 PM
Baked goods, handcrafted gifts, wonderful
decorations for your festive celebrations and
holiday giving

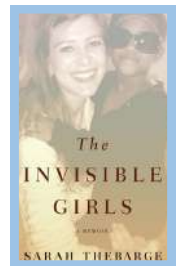


CRAFT WORKSHOPS for the Holiday
Boutique meet on second and fourth
Thursdays in the McMillen Room at
9:30 AM and are led by Gerry
McGuire. All help is appreciated .



BOOK CLUB MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 28th

The UMW Book Club will meet on Friday, September 28th, at 11 A.M. in the McMillen Room to discuss a memoir, The Invisible Girls by Sarah Thebarge. When Sarah encounters a young Somali mother and her daughters on a train, she gets drawn into their world of poverty and need for connection with a new world. Hadhi, the Somalian mother, and her five daughters had been abandoned by her husband in Portland, Oregon; Sarah had recently moved from the East Coast after a battle with cancer. Sarah, a devout Christian, discovers new courage and love as she helps the Somalian family navigate in a foreign culture. Through this experience she also is able to heal from a broken relationship and cancer.



You can buy this book at www.amazon.com or see Patti Melsheimer about sharing a book with another book club member. Come join us on September 28th for a lively book discussion!

Submitted by Judy Leonard



*A Few Notes on Music
at First United Methodist Church, AG*

THE CHANCEL CHOIR RETURNS TO THE CHOIR LOFT ON SEPTEMBER 9th

The choir concluded summer break on Wednesday, August 29th with rehearsals and will be back in the sanctuary for services after rehearsing for two weeks. New singers are welcome! Contact Julie Burns, music director.

Many special thank yous go to the Special Music instrumentalists and singers who provided lovely selections for the 10:30 service during the summer.

THE HANDBELL CHOIR (THE GRANDE RINGERS) RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 16th

After summer break, handbell director Leonard Lutz and the handbell ringers resumed rehearsals recently, and there will be handbell choir music at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services on the third Sunday of the month. If you are interested in ringing with the handbell choir, please contact Leonard Lutz.

PRAISE FOR THE PRAISE TEAM WHO SING AND SERVE ALL YEAR ROUND

Throughout the summer months the Praise Team at FUMCAG were here to provide music at the 8:30 worship service on Sunday mornings. Now that it is September, they sing on! Praise Team director Mike Clark extends the invitation to come learn some contemporary Christian worship music with them.

BOARD OF Trustees' MEETING

Meeting August 14, 2018
Paul Holden, president

The Latest from the Trustees

Work continues to beautify the Church's landscape . We are anticipating improvements on the little gardens on both sides of the Sanctuary

The storage space to the right of the stage in Criswell Hall is now being used to store old financial records and has a separate key.

A solar light will be installed on the north side of the Sanctuary to discourage people from sleeping there. When we see people present at night, it is important that we contact the Arroyo Grande Police and request additional drive byes.

Trustees reviewed our proposed budget numbers for 2018-19 which Joel requested. We will shoot come in \$950 under budget for the year.

Writing Your Life Stories Class Resumes September 13th

Have you wanted to write your autobiography but did not know where to start or how to do it? The **Writing Your Life Stories** class provides an easy way to write down your life experiences in simple, short stories. After you write many stories in class and at home, you can gather them into a form of biography to share with family and friends.



If you want a testimony how this class works just ask Judy Atwood, Gene Heiney, Judy Heiney, Alice Addison, Patti Melsheimer, Mary Birgelaitis, Jim David—or me—to share our experiences. The first fall session will be Thursday, September 13 at 1:30 PM in the McMillen Room. Please let me know if you plan to come so I can have class materials prepared in advance.

Roger Sperling

rbsnas@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Criswell Hall

5:45 p.m. --- 6:45 p.m.

(following the free dinners at 5:00 p.m.)

Get out your calendar and put these dates on it. Join us for a meal at 5:00 and at 5:45 for the study. If you are interested in providing a meal on occasion, let Judy Atwood know. Funds are available for reimbursement if desired.

September 5 through October 3

UNAFRAID

Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times
by Adam Hamilton

October 10 through November 14

SIMON PETER

Flawed but Faithful Disciple
by Adam Hamilton

November 21

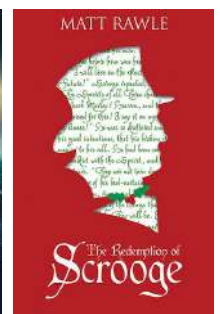
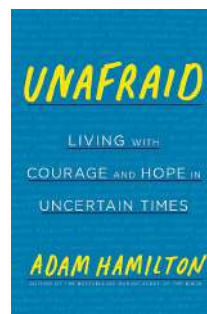
Thanksgiving Break

November 28 through December 19

THE REDEMPTION OF SCROOGE

by Matt Rawle

This Advent study will “bless us everyone” and reinvigorate our spiritual journeys as we look at this familiar story through the lens of faith .



FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Patti Melsheimer

HOSPITALITY

Did you see that visitor in church last week? Did you introduce yourself?? We have visitors nearly every Sunday. In order for our church to grow and spread the love of Jesus we must become a “welcoming church”, extending hospitality to all.

The most valuable tools in hospitality ministries are a smile and an outgoing spirit. The ministry of **welcoming is not the responsibility of a few people or a committee. It is the responsibility of the entire church family.**

Welcoming visitors and members as they arrive for worship services at church is an easy way to extend a hand of care and kindness as soon as people arrive at our front door. But is the front door the best place to start saying, “Hello?” Many United Methodist churches are now deploying outdoor ministry teams to greet people as soon as they enter the parking lot!

Here are some ideas that might make it easier for you to welcome others to our church. Feel free to come up with other ideas or adapt these on your own. These are just to get you thinking about welcoming as a personal ministry, right there in the pew, and a lifestyle for our church.

Circle of 10: Greet anyone, member or guest, who comes within ten feet of you. Make a special effort to greet the people you don’t

already know within your Circle of 10.

Rule of Three: Please do not talk to other members for the first three minutes after the service. Talk only to those you don’t know or people you know are guests. It takes guests about three minutes to exit the church after worship and we need to make sure someone has made contact with them before they leave.

Don’t know what to say to a guest? Here are a few conversation starters:

1. Offer a handshake and say, “Hello, My name is _____, and you are _____?”
2. Wait for a response and repeat the person’s name so you make sure that you get it right and so you can more easily remember it.
3. If you think you know the face but can’t recall the name, try this approach, “Hello, I’m _____. I believe I’ve seen you here before but I don’t think we’ve had the opportunity to meet. What is your name?”
4. Don’t be embarrassed if you’re greeting a member and don’t know that person’s name—or be offended if someone doesn’t remember yours. We need to offer grace to one another, just as we would to new people.

See you in church!
Patti Melsheimer

FIVE CITIES CHRISTIAN WOMEN

has a basket under a table in our Narthex and, over the years, we have greatly appreciated items donated here at FUMCAG. At present we can use more non-perishable food items. Thank you for helping support this Food Pantry—open Monday—Friday from 2 PM to 4 PM.

It is located across from Central Coast Baptist Church, 9th & Rockaway, Grover Beach.

~ Virginia Mothes, Treasurer



News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, *chair*

MISSION TEAM: AUGUST 2018

Judy Atwood

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. [Bright Light](#)
2. [Church Wildfire Response](#)
3. [Special Giving Totals for 2018](#)

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

1. BRIGHT LIGHT

This month our Bright Light is the Five Cities Christian Women Food pantry. Our congregation has been a part of this ministry for a number of years. There are several of the congregation who are Monday volunteers. There are others who volunteer on different days.



The last several years the mission team has sponsored new small blankets for each of their Christmas Boxes given out with gifts for the children and food for their Christmas dinner. We plan to do the blankets again this year; if anyone wants to join us in this project, please feel free to do so. They usually do 65 families.

Our Children's Center has collected pennies for turkeys for their meal as well. Many have helped them in this project of sharing with others in our community. Start collecting your pennies now for their fall collection.

The pantry serves approximately 2000 people each month. Current needs for the pantry are

- *Peanut Butter
- *Canned Pastas
- *Cereal
- *Non-perishables

Add these to you grocery list and leave these items in the basket in the narthex. They thank you in advance.

2. CHURCH WILDFIRE RESPONSE

As many as 18 wildfires are currently burning, and still uncontained in many cases. We have been lucky on the central coast this year, but remember the devastation in our own district this past year. A reminder, that the United Methodist Church is often the first of responders and remains supporting as one of the last to leave. Sometimes we provide shelter, and often meals, as well as a place for people to seek assistance for other agencies which stage in our facilities to provide help of various kinds.

The best way to help is through financial gifts to our disaster response through UMCOR. This way funds and resources can be directed quickly and directly to the need of the disaster. You may place a gift in the offering plate marked disaster response and we will see that it is forwarded as you request.



Many hands continue to do many things.

3. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2018

Watch as the totals grow during the year!

ELT Scholarships	\$ 1,445.00
Haiti Mission	2,000.00
People's Kitchen Misc.	12,823.38
People's Kitchen Food	380.44
South County Food Bank	380.43
UMCOR—Fire Relief	1,150.00
UMCOR—Human Relations Sunday	53.00
UMCOR Sunday	967.00
UMCOR—Native American Ministries	250.00
UMCOR—Peace with Justice	206.00
7 MONTHS TOTAL:	\$ 19,655.25

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>2 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Finance Committee</p>	<p>3 Church Office Closed No Emergency Food Pantry due to holiday</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>4 8:30 AM Senior Exercise-CH 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus knitters—MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga Class—CH 5 PM Handbells—HR 6 PM Castle Caper Practice—CH</p>	<p>5 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM UMW Steering—L 5 PM Free Dinner—CH 5:45 PM Adult Study Group—CH 7 PM—Chancel Choir Rehearsal—S</p>	<p>6 8:00 AM People's Kitchen Prep—Leave to Serve 11:15 AM—K 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10 AM Intercessory Prayer—L 5 PM Handbells—HR 6 PM Worship Team—PS</p>	<p>7 AGUMCC Spirit Day 8:30 AM Bible Study—L 3:30 PM AGUMCCC closed 3:30 PM AGUMCC Staff Development—MMR</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Board of Trustees</p>	<p>10 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry—CH 5 PM Handbells—HR 5:45 PM G. McGuire Quilting Class—CH 7 PM Women of Prayer -S</p>	<p>11 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters—MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga Class—CH 5 PM Handbells—HR 6 PM Castle Caper Practice—CH 7 PM Trustees—PS</p>	<p>12 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Church Work Day 5 PM Free Dinner—CH 5:45 PM Adult Study Group—CH 7 PM—Chancel Choir Rehearsal—S</p>	<p>13 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10 AM Intercessory Prayer—L 10 AM UMW Boutique Craft Workshop—MMR 1:30 PM Life Stories Classes—MMR 5 PM Handbells—HR 6 PM AGUMCC Family Fun Day Planning—MMR</p>	<p>14 8:30 AM Bible Study—L</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Coffee Hour: UMC Children's Center</p>	<p>17 9 AM Deadline Newsletter articles 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry—CH 5:45 PM G. McGuire Quilting Class—CH 7 PM Women of Prayer -S</p>	<p>18 8:30 AM Senior Exer—CH 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters—MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga Class—CH Preschool Board—MMR 1:30 PM Open Session 2:00 PM Closed Session 5 PM Handbells—HR 7 PM JOY Circle—Home of member</p>	<p>19 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Communications—L 10 AM Mary-Martha-Esther—MMR 5 PM Free Dinner—CH 5:45 PM Adult Study Group—CH 7 PM—Chancel Choir</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10 AM Intercessory Prayer—L 5 PM Handbells—HR 7 PM Church Council—MMR</p>	<p>21 8:30 AM Bible Study—L</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Autumn Begins</p>
<p>23 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Finance</p> <p>1:00 PM All-Church Picnic, Elm Street Park</p>	<p>24 11 AM UMM Cabinet Meeting—L 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry—CH 5:45 PM G. McGuire Quilting Class—CH 7 PM Women of Prayer -S</p>	<p>25 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters—MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH 6 PM Castle Caper Practice—CH</p>	<p>26 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Church Work Day 5 PM Free Dinner—CH 5:45 PM Adult Study Group—CH 7 PM—Chancel Choir Rehearsal—S</p>	<p>27 8:30 AM Senior Exer-CH 10 AM UMW Boutique Craft Workshop—MMR 10 AM Intercessory Pr-L 1 PM Mission Team—MMR 5 PM Handbells—HR 6 PM AGUMCC Family Fun Day Planning—MMR 6 PM Castle Caper—CH</p>	<p>28 8:30 AM Bible Study—L 11:00 AM UMW Book Club—MMR</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Mission Team</p>						

Meet Our CHURCH STAFF

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www.facebook.com/fumcag

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E-mail: revmaryb@fumcag.org

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Lay Leader: Patti Melsheimer

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Frances Robertson

Website Manager: Jamie Foster

Choir Director: Julie Burns

Praise Team Director: Mike Clark

Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler

Multi-Media: Duncan Leonard

Handbell Choir Dir.: Leonard Lutz

Bishop: Grant J. Hagiya

District Superintendent:

Rev. James Powell

AG UM Children's Center

Director: Madrigal Quaglino

E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net

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Chair: Joe Brown

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Proofing Team: Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Joe Brown, Judy Leonard, and Virginia Mothes.

Other contributors:

Varied Teams / Committees

Deadline for October issue
Monday, September 17,
in the morning

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Fellowship Time ("Coffee Hour")

The Church Council is taking signups for Fellowship Time after the services (commonly called "Coffee Hour") for 2019.

If you would like to bring snacks for Fellowship Time a particular Sunday to celebrate a special event (e.g. anniversary, birthday, memorial), please contact Joel Anderson at

Joel@JoelsCoins.com

or leave a note for Joel with the Church Office by September 16th.



September

Marj Cawelti.....09/05
 Mike Coho.....09/06
 Carlene Minckler.....09/08
 Jan Herber.....09/12
 Sally Weitkamp.....09/13
 Alice Addison.....09/14
 Mason Baybayan.....09/16
 Bob Thronson.....09/16
 Betty Ann Quintana.....09/18
 Jan Treat.....09/18
 Peg Gallop.....09/21
 John Emery.....09/22
 Glen Werling.....09/24
 Judith Atwood.....09/26
 Jeanne Stephenson.....09/28
 Claire Jacob.....09/29



A Special Thank You

to all the contributors
and proofreaders
for their

diligent, creative, and
timely work on the
Cast-a-Net;

the newsletter could not
exist without you!

from the editor

Have we missed
your birthday?

If so, it is not listed on our data base. Please contact the church office and we will be glad to add your birth date to our monthly birthday list!



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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www.facebook.com/fumcag



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Children's Center Chronicle

"Whirling Hexagons"

Opportunity Quilt

This beautiful quilt, made by the "Sew 'n' Sews" at FUMCAG, is on display in Criswell Hall every Sunday through September 23rd. For your opportunity to win it, tickets are \$1 or 6 for \$5.

