

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

# Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

October 2014



Susan Coho, Event Coordinator

**October 10-12, 2014**

**SAVE THE DATES!!**

*Check out the website at  
[rocktheblockweekend.org](http://rocktheblockweekend.org)*

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

## Friday, October 10th

- 6:30 PM Cowboy Church (PL)

## Saturday, October 11th

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

## Sunday, October 12th

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

### Abbreviation Legend

(S) Sanctuary (PL) Parking Lot (L) Library  
(CH) Criswell Hall (MMR) McMillen Room



# Shepherd's Notes

David Burgeson, *Pastor*

## Our Faith Journey

Faith is the basic orientation and commitment of our whole being—a matter of heart and soul. Christian faith is grounding our lives in the living God as revealed especially in Jesus Christ. It's both a gift we receive within the Christian community and a choice we make. It's trusting in God and relying on God as the source and destiny of our lives. Faith is believing in God, giving God our devoted loyalty and allegiance. Faith is following Jesus, answering the call to be his disciples in the world. Faith is hoping for God's future, leaning into the coming kingdom that God has promised. Faith-as-belief is active; it involves trusting, believing, following, hoping.

## Our Theological Journey

Theology is thinking together about our faith and discipleship. It's reflecting with others in the Christian community about the good news of God's love in Christ. Both laypeople and clergy are needed in "our theological task." The laypeople bring understandings from their ongoing effort to live as Christians in the complexities of a secular world; clergy bring special tools and experience acquired through intensive biblical and theological study. We need one another.

But how shall we go about our theological task so that our beliefs are true to the gospel and helpful in our lives? In John Wesley's balanced and rigorous ways for thinking through Christian doctrine, we find four major sources or criteria, each interrelated. These we often call our "theological guidelines": Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason. Let's look at each of these.

## Scripture

In thinking about our faith, we put primary reliance on the Bible. It's the unique testimony to God's self-disclosure in the life of Israel; in the ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ; and in the Spirit's work in the early church. It's our sacred canon and, thus, the decisive source of our Christian witness and the authoritative measure of the truth in our beliefs.

In our theological journey we study the Bible within the believing community. Even when we study it alone, we're guided and corrected through dialogue with oth-

er Christians. We interpret individual texts in light of their place in the Bible as a whole. We use concordances, commentaries, and other aids prepared by the scholars. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we try to discern both the original intention of the text and its meaning for our own faith and life.

## Tradition

Between the New Testament age and our own era stand countless witnesses on whom we rely in our theological journey. Through their words in creed, hymn, discourse, and prayer, through their music and art, through their courageous deeds, we discover Christian insight by which our study of the Bible is illuminated. This living tradition comes from many ages and many cultures. Even today Christians living in far different circumstances from our own—in Africa, in Latin America, in Asia—are helping us discover fresh understanding of the Gospel's power.

## Experience

A third source and criterion of our theology is our experience. By experience we mean especially the "new life in Christ," which is ours as a gift of God's grace; such rebirth and personal assurance gives us new eyes to see the living truth in Scripture. But we mean also the broader experience of all the life we live, its joys, its hurts, its yearnings. So we interpret the Bible in light of our cumulative experiences. We interpret our life's experience in light of the biblical message. We do so not only for our experience individually but also for the experience of the whole human family.

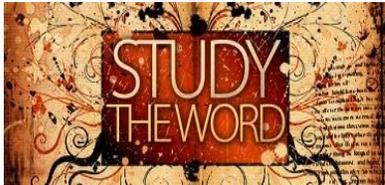
## Reason

Finally, our own careful use of reason, though not exactly a direct source of Christian belief, is a necessary tool. We use our reason in reading and interpreting the Scripture. We use it in relating the Scripture and tradition to our experience and in organizing our theological witness in a way that's internally coherent. We use our reason in relating our beliefs to the full range of human knowledge and in expressing our faith to others in clear and appealing ways.

Together in ministry,



Excerpted from "United Methodist Member's Handbook, Revised," George Koehler (Discipleship Resources, 2006), pp. 61, 64-65.



**Sundays at 6 PM**

Take part in this ongoing look at the Scriptures in the McMillen Room with Mike Herber.



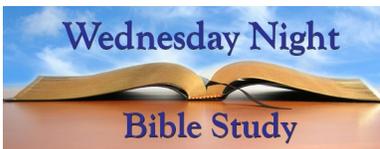
**Mondays at 7 PM**

Women come to pray together in the Sanctuary.



**Mondays at 7 PM**

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



**Adults at 5:45 PM**

(See schedule at right)

**Youth Group at 7 PM**

FREE Fellowship Meal at 5 PM



**Fridays at 8:30 AM**

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



**5 PM Wednesdays in Criswell Hall**

Dates	Topics and Schedule
Wednesday, October 1	Adult Study on Break
Sunday, October 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Service</li> <li>TOPIC: Discipleship: Worship (Hebrews 10:19—25)</li> <li>6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching &amp; Discussion</li> </ul>
Wednesday, October 8	Adult Study on Break
Sunday, October 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Service</li> <li>TOPIC: <u>Heaven Is For Real</u></li> <li>6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching &amp; Discussion</li> </ul>
Wednesday, October 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:45 PM Pastor's Study Returns—<u>Heaven Is For Real</u></li> </ul>
Sunday, October 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Service</li> <li>TOPIC: <u>Heaven Is For Real</u></li> <li>6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching &amp; Discussion</li> </ul>
Wednesday, October 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:45 PM Pastor's Study—<u>Heaven Is For Real</u></li> </ul>
Sunday, October 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Service</li> <li>TOPIC: <u>Heaven Is For Real</u></li> <li>6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching &amp; Discussion</li> </ul>
Wednesday, October 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:45 PM Pastor's Study—<u>Heaven Is For Real</u></li> </ul>



When we think about heaven, endless questions surface: What is it like? Will we have bodies? Wings? Will we see people we know? Are there animals there?

Through a young boy's account of his visit to heaven, poignant answers emerge that will forever change what you think about God, eternity, and even life here on earth.

From end-times battles to agelessness to who gets to go, Colton's journey to Heaven provides a wealth of insight into this eternal place described in the Bible.

If you have always wondered what

heaven is like, if you are looking for assurances about the loss of a loved one, or if you need to experience a fresh glimpse of the astounding wisdom of God and his plans for your life, this story is for you.

In the pages of this book and through a new **sermon series & Wednesday night study with Pastor David**, we will see first hand the comfort, hope and descriptions of great things to come as we discover—like Colton did first hand—that *Heaven is for real*. Join the journey!!

Copies will be available for purchase .  
Free Movie Night info—see page 10



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

David Bauer, publicity

Please mark your calendars for Rock The Block Weekend. We hope to see you on Sunday, October 12th between services for a FREE Pancake Breakfast. Look to the cover page for more on this GREAT weekend.

As usual please RSVP with Val McClure.

Thank you everyone!!! See 'ya soon!



## Deadline October 10 NO EXCEPTIONS!

Article and item ideas must be e-mailed to the church office before the Communications Committee's next meeting on **October 14**.

## WHY WE GIVE (umcgoing.org)

### WE GIVE... To Minister in Jesus Name.

Together, United Methodists do remarkable ministry around the world. We care for survivors recovering from earthquakes and storms; we invest, long term, in vulnerable communities; we implement the most effective solutions to diseases like malaria; we equip the next generation to lead the church and society. In all of this, we share the good news of Jesus Christ.

### WE GIVE BECAUSE... Jesus Invites us to.

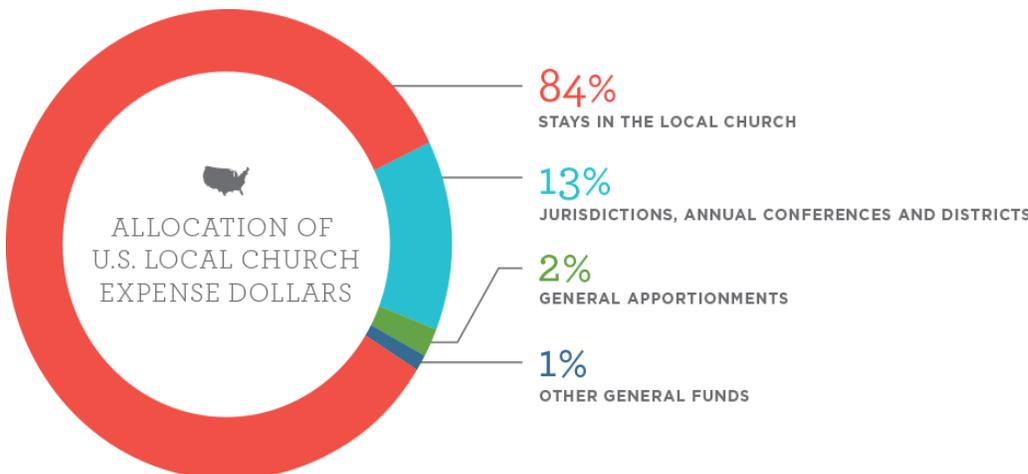
The Bible is clear. Galatians 6:2, NRSV says, "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Jesus says it this way, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 19:19b).

### WE GIVE BECAUSE...

#### Many together are greater than one alone.

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways.

United Methodist Church Giving is about people working together to accomplish something bigger than themselves. In so doing, we effect change around the world, all in the name of Jesus Christ



### Current Finances of UMC of AG as of 9/21/14

#### Monthly Budget

\$ 22,322.

#### Received to Date

\$ 13,867.54

#### Difference

- \$ 8,454.46

**ONE WEEK TO GO—Let's do it!!**



Patti Melsheimer, Publicity

United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

"The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

Did you know that the United Methodist Women of Arroyo Grande First United Methodist Church have a bulletin board located in Criswell Hall that is completely dedicated to information about our UMW?? Have you looked at it lately? Our women work very hard at keeping it up to date, interesting and informative. Please check it out to learn more about our UMW, our activities, our programs, our circles and lots of other information. (It is located near the door that leads to the parking lot.)



While you are in the area, you might want to drop in to the church library to pick up a copy of the United Methodist Women's magazine, called "Response." It will give you a broad understanding of the programs of the UMW both here in the United States and around the world. It also provides in-depth articles about individual missions. You might be surprised how many different activities and missions your UMW dollars support. It will definitely make you proud to be involved with such a group.

In November you will receive an invitation by mail to "A Virtual Tea" from our Arroyo Grande UMW. You will be invited to make yourself a cup of tea and think about all the fine things that United Methodist Women do and then make a donation to support all these wonderful causes. No raffle tickets to buy, no cookies to bake, no wreathes to create, no quilts to sew! This will take the place of our usual Holiday Boutique and Brunch. We hope you will support this fundraising effort enthusiastically.



The UMW Book Club has read *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers* as our first book after returning from summer break.

The author, Anne Lamott, is insightful and honest. "It is these three prayers – asking for assistance, appreciating

the good we witness, and feeling awe at the world – that get us through the day and show us the way forward", she states. If you would also like to read this book it is available from the Arroyo Grande Public Library.

The next meeting of our book club is scheduled for **October 24 at 11 AM** in the McMillen room. Join us!



CONGREGATIONAL  
CARE MINISTERS

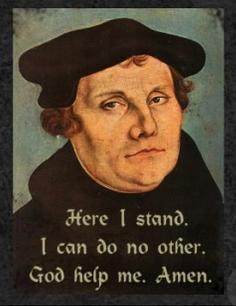
### Congregational Care Committee

Many thanks to all who helped to make the New Member Recognition and 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon on Sunday, September 14, a wonderful success! For any who were not able to attend we welcomed eleven new members. They include: Dave Bauer, Dennis Eiler, Paul Holden, Jeri & Bob McGuire, Art & Jan Moore, Helen Moore, Calvin Thompson, Cristy Van Hook, Ann Smith and Mary Whitson. If you have not yet had the opportunity to introduce yourself to these people, take a moment next Sunday to do so.

We were also treated to some delightful reminders of the fine history of our church and were able to recognize many who helped to build it. Some of those who attended the church when it was still in the Village of Arroyo Grande and were recognized at the luncheon included Doug Ballagh, Iris Caldon, Jean Hubbard, Gladys Paulson, Isabella Sloan, Kay Walker, and Joanne Wiseman.

Special thanks also goes to our youth group and their leaders, Linda and Mike Herber, who did a great job serving the luncheon. It is always so nice to see our next generation of members so involved!

Patti Melsheimer, Chair



## Reformation Day:

### What, Why, and Resources for Worship

By Dean McIntyre (GBOD.org)

#### What Is Reformation Day?

Reformation Day is a day set aside to recognize, remember, and celebrate the Protestant Reformation. In some countries, it is observed as an official holiday. It remembers Martin Luther and the central role he played in the reform movement that split the western church of Rome.

#### When Is It Observed?

Reformation Day is October 31 of every year. That is the day in 1517 when Dr. Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. It was Luther's act that caused the initial furor that resulted in the Reformation. Luther had earned his Doctor of Theology degree in Wittenberg and was a respected professor there, as well as the assistant pastor of the Castle Church. Luther chose October 31 because it was the day before All Saints' Day. The Castle Church's front door opened on a main street of the city, and it was a good place to post a notice for public viewing. Luther knew that on the next day, November 1 — All Saints' Day — the church would be filled with worshipers, many of whom were educated and literate. His act of posting his *Ninety-Five Theses* on the door was the equivalent of publishing a journal article, taking out a newspaper ad, or putting up an Internet website today. Reformation Day is most often observed today on the Sunday prior to October 31.

#### Why Did Luther Post His 95 Theses?

There were numerous reasons identified in the theses. Luther addressed a number of objectionable teachings and doctrines, including salvation by works and the practice of selling indulgences. These were actual certificates that people could purchase from the Church that absolved them of their sins and promised their salvation and eternal life. Pope Leo X called for the sale of indulgences in Germany to help raise money to complete the construction of Saint Peter's Cathedral in Rome. The Pope said that those who purchased these indulgences would be absolved of all sin. Some of Luther's parishioners purchased these indulgences and asked Luther about their validity. This led directly to his posting of the *95 Theses*.

#### Reformation Themes

Luther argued that salvation could not be obtained by purchasing indulgences, through works of charity, by making a pilgrimage, or by performing other acts of piety and devotion. He argued that salvation was an act of God, given by grace through our faith in Jesus Christ. God has already provided for our salvation by the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus; and salvation is ours to accept through faith, not to achieve through works. A second major theme of the Reformation is the priesthood of all believers, meaning that Christians do not need an intermediary between them and God. It was the right and duty of all Christians to enter into their own personal relationship with God, to read the Bible and worship in their own language, and to pray directly to God rather than through another's efforts.

#### Importance to Us Today

As United Methodists today, nearly 500 years after the start of the Reformation, what is its significance to us? Why even observe it? After all, we are not the descendants of Luther. Our roots are deep in the Anglican tradition: Both John and Charles Wesley were priests in the Church of England. There are a number of reasons we should observe the day. The themes of the Reformation remain the great themes and principles of our own faith today. The great schism that occurred in the church remains with us. Our fractured denominations have entered into dialogue and cooperative activities that have brought us closer together. Today we may observe Reformation Day with a sense of moving toward unity and community. It is an opportunity to repent of the sins and excesses of the past and to celebrate our common faith, even if we still cannot celebrate a common ritual and sacrament. Reformation today can represent healing of old wounds as, together, we all work to build and strengthen Christ's church and love one another as Christ has loved us.

<http://www.gbod.org/resources/reformation-day-what-why-and-resources-for-worship>

## Do United Methodists Believe in saints?

United Methodists believe in saints, but not in the same manner as the Catholic Church.

We recognize Matthew, Paul, John, Luke and other early followers of Jesus as saints, and countless numbers of United Methodist churches are named after these saints.

We also recognize and celebrate **All Saints' Day** (November 1) and "all the saints who from their labors rest." *All Saints' Day is a time to remember Christians of every time and place, honoring those who lived faithfully and shared their faith with us.* On All Saints' Day, many churches read the names of their members who died in the past year.

However, our denomination does not have any system whereby people are elected to sainthood. We do not pray to saints, nor do we believe they serve as mediators to God. United Methodist believe "... there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human who gave himself a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:5-6a).

United Methodists call people "saints" because they exemplified the Christian life. In this sense, every Christian can be considered a saint.

John Wesley believed we have much to learn from the saints, but he did not encourage anyone to worship them. He expressed concern about the Church of England's focus on saints' days and said that "most of the holy days were at present answering no valuable end."

Wesley's focus was entirely on the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

*All Saints Day*

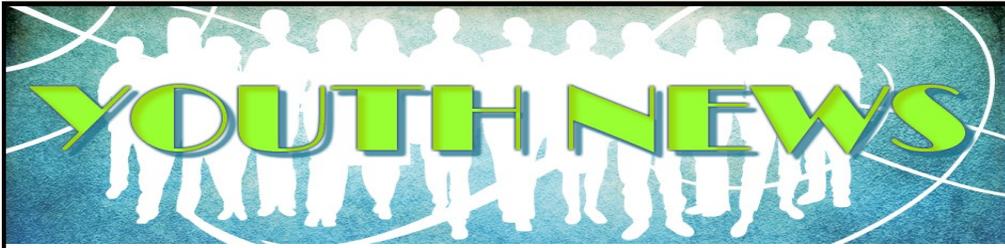
*The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.*

Psalm 34:22



SOURCE: UMC.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>October</h1>			<p>1</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9:00 AM People's Kitchen Team Prep-Day (CH/K) 9:15 AM Storytime with Pastor David &amp; Goodie Bear (N) 10 AM Storytime with Pastor David &amp; Goodie Bear (N) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) Adult Bible Study on Break 7 PM AG UM Children's Center Family Fun Day Planning Meeting (MMR) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9:15 AM Storytime with Pastor David &amp; Goodie Bear (N) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen - leave to serve 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Spirit Day at AG UM CC - wear your shirts! 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3:30 PM AG UM CC Closed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team (S)</p> <p>Youth Lock-In 10/4 beginning at 5 PM Until 10/5 at 9 AM At the home of the Ballaghs</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Coffee Hour: AG UM Children's Center</p> <p>Alternative Christmas</p>  <p>8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 12 PM Christian Ed. Meeting (MMR)</p> <p>6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>6</p> <p><b>Pastor's Day off</b></p> <p>10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program - Chess and US. Constitution/ Elections 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Recreation Dept. . Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L) 7 PM Trustees (MMR) 6:30 PM SPRC with District Superintendent (TBD)</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM UMW Steering (L) 12:30 PM Alzheimer's Association Care Giver Support Group (MMR) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) Adult Bible Study on Break 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 7 PM AG UM Children's Center Family Fun Day Planning Meeting 7 PM Worship Team (MMR)</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>Rock The Block Friday</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p>  <p><b>Newsletter Deadline</b></p> <p>6:30 PM Rock the Block Weekend Kick Off! Cowboy Church In the church parking lot</p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Rock The Block Saturday</b></p> <p>11 AM AG UM Children's Center Family Fun Day, Trike-A-Thon and BBQ 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Free RTBW Community Outreach Dinner 7 PM RTBW FREE Movie Night "Heaven Is Real" (S)</p>
<p>12</p> <p><b>Rock The Block Sunday</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 8:30 AM Free Pancake Breakfast</p>  <p>10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>3 PM RTBW Choir Concert</p>  <p>6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Columbus Day <b>Pastor's Day off</b></p> <p>10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program - Chess and US. Constitution/ Elections 12 PM Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Support Group (MMR) 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Recreation Dept. . Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10:30 AM Communications Committee 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L) 6 PM Arroyo Grande MS Support Group (MMR)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM People's Kitchen Team Prep-Day (CH/K) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM "Heaven Is for Real" Adult Bible Study 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen - leave to serve 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 12 PM Alzheimer's Support Group for Adult Children of Parents (MMR)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team (S)</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Trustees</p> <p>8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>Al Harvey's 100th Birthday!</p>  <p>6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>Pastor's Day off</b></p> <p>10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program - Chess and US. Constitution/ Elections 11 AM Family Fun Day &amp; Trike-A-Thon 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Recreation Dept. . Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10 AM Congregational Care Team (L) 1:30 PM Preschool Board - open session (MMR) 2:30 PM Preschool Board - closed session (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L) 7 PM JOY Circle (at the home of a member)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM Mary-Martha (MMR) 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 6:30 PM Church Council (MMR)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 11 AM UMW Book Club</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 4 PM Messy Church Event</p> 
<p>26</p> <p>8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 6:00 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>  <p>6 PM Sunday Night Bible Study (MMR)</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Pastor's Day off</b></p> <p>10 AM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program - Chess and US. Constitution/ Elections (Session 1) 1 PM UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Recreation Dept. . Quilting Classes (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 5 PM Free Fellowship Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Adult Bible Study 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (handbell Room)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p> <p><b>Reformation Day</b></p>  <p>Here I stand, I can do no other, God help me, Amen.</p>	<p><b>November 1</b></p>  <p>All Saints' Day</p>



As I write this, I can't believe where the time is flying. By the time you read this article it will be October...yikes. Summer is over and the youth are back in school and back to their many activities and we are always very humbled when they include coming to youth group on Wednesdays and Sundays as their priority. I know they like coming for the fellowship and of course the donuts, but all the same we are glad for the ability to share the gospel with them.

And speaking of the gospel, that is the seven part series, G.O.S.P.E.L. we just started with the youth. Sharing the gospel with someone is like taking them on a journey through the story of the Bible. This journey can be explained in a six-letter acrostic that spells out the word GOSPEL.

**G**OD created us to be with Him.  
**O**UR sins separate us from God.  
**S**INS cannot be removed by good deeds.  
**P**AYING the price for sin, Jesus died and rose again.  
**E**VERYONE who trusts in Him alone has eternal life.  
**L**IFE with Jesus starts now and lasts forever.

This series is done by Greg Stier and Propaganda. Mike and I had a chance to meet Propaganda, a rapper and spoken word speaker, at the last two youth conventions we attended. This series is helping us to equip the youth to be disciples and then go out and makes disciples among their peers.

Many of the events I need to talk about haven't happened yet at the time I write this but will have happened by the time you read this, such as the Harvest Festival Water Distribution and the Youth Lock In, so I will have to write more about those next month. We are excited that another youth concert is in the works, but more about that next month.

As always, we meet on Wednesday nights at 7 pm and Sunday mornings at 10:30 am for 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and *friends are always welcome.*

In His Service, Mike and Lou (*Youth Directors*)



Hello! I would like to let you know about our Sunday School. We provide nursery care for our 10:30 AM service, as well as Sunday School for preschool and elementary school children. Currently, we have 4,5, 6 year old class, as well as an elementary class. The younger class is located downstairs, and the elementary class is located upstairs in room 211. We are using the "Grow, Proclaim, Serve!" curriculum for both classes, with an age appropriate version for each. All of our teachers have been background checked with our Safe Sanctuary Program. Thank you to all teachers and assistants and many prayers and blessings as we teach this next year! If you are interested in helping with our Sunday School or nursery, please contact me!

We are looking forward to the Rock The Block Weekend coming up October 10 – 12, 2014. We will have our Bake Sale booth for the Family Fun Day from 11 AM – 1:30 PM October 11. Please help us out with your baked goods! We are looking for some volunteer parents and children to help! Also, this is a great event for kids and families with lots of fun activities. You can volunteer and have fun at the same time! Yay!

Help make this an exciting and rewarding Family centered year with our Sunday School! Stay tuned for more fun ...

Carolyn Russell,  
*Interim Children's Ministries Director*

# News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, *chair*

## **MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:**

Many things to report this edition...so read carefully so as not to miss out. 1.) World Communion Sunday, 2.) Blanket Campaign, 3.) Imagine No Malaria, 4.) Laptop needs for Haiti students, 5.) Layette Items for NOME, 6.) Special Giving totals for 2014.

## **GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE..IN ACTION**

### **1. WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5**

Around the globe, countless gifted and qualified people face financial obstacles that hinder them from preparing for the vocation God has given them, especially youth and young adults. For ethnic students who will be the first generation in their families to attend college, or for those people of color who haven't historically had access to resources that make higher education possible, the road toward education has often been unwieldy. What would it look like if the church today imitated Jesus' affirmation of the full dignity and God-given potential of all women and men—especially those who've historically been assigned to the world's margins? On World Communion Sunday your giving helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve.

### **2. REMINDER: BLANKET CAMPAIGN FOR CHRISTMAS**

Blankets: How many can you think of, e.g., horse, electric, fleece, baby, Navajo? But none more appreciated than those that have been donated to the UMC to be given out to the needy of our community. November 23<sup>rd</sup> will be Blanket Sunday. We will have a special blessing by Pastor David, before they are given out at the People's Kitchen Annual Christmas Party and in the 5 Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry Christmas Baskets. Let's see how many we can collect between now and November 23<sup>rd</sup>. They can be brought any time. Leave them in the LARGE GREEN BOX in the Narthex. We will gather them from there.

### **3. IMAGINE NO MALARIA UPDATE**

Imagine No Malaria update for our pledge as a congregation was reached with the help of many people. This doesn't mean we have to quit working on this very worthwhile cause. We can send in more

all the time. So if you feel led to add to our total, please do so. Our **GRAND TOTAL** to date is \$3,023.13.

### **4. LAPTOP NEEDS FOR HAITI STUDENTS**

Four students in Haiti were recipients of refurbished laptops recently when a friend traveled to Haiti to participate in meetings about the ministry of the United Methodist Church in Haiti. Recently some of you told me you also have old laptops that you would donate to Haitian Students who are desperate to get an education; this is a link that makes it possible for them to do so. So please share them, and we can be sure they are refurbished and made ready with programs they need. Thanks.

### **5. LAYETTE ITEMS FOR NOME**

REMINDER of current items they are needing include: ONESIES, T-SHIRTS, COTTON SLEEPERS, BIBS, SOCKS, RECEIVING BLANKETS, WASH CLOTHS, TOYS, BOTTLES, PACIFIERS, ETC.

*Many hands can do many things!*



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

### **6. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2014**

UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry	20.00
Human Relations Sunday	317.00
Imagine No Malaria	2,763.78
Native American Sunday	187.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	656.00
Peace With Justice	285.00
People's Kitchen Food	3,911.97
People's Kitchen Misc.	5,556.88
South County Food Bank	394.26
Vacation Bible School	460.00
Wells for Africa	150.00
Youth Mission Fund	253.00
<b>8 MONTHS TOTAL</b>	<b>14,954.89</b>

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



## Add Your Voice

2014 Methodist Cluster  
Choir Festival

Come enjoy an afternoon of wonderful music as our Chancel Choir joins with the other members of our Methodist Cluster on October 19 at 4:00 at the Atascadero Methodist Church, 11605 El Camino Real in Atascadero. All are welcome.

Join us on Wednesday evenings from 7—8:30 PM. We really do have loads of fun and fellowship together. It may not look like we have room for more, but we always do.

*Julie Burns*

Chancel Choir Director



### Handbell Choir is Back!

Sunday, September 21st we had the pleasure of welcoming to the loft our handbell choir, the *Grande Ringers*.

This talented group of ringers practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 PM. If you are interested in joining, please stop in and see us in the Handbell Room during the practice times above. We would love to have you.

Contact Leonard Lutz, Handbell director, for more details.



**Have you wondered about Heaven? What does it look like?  
Will we see our loved ones? Are there animals there?**

**Join us for a FREE Movie on October 11 at 7 PM  
FREE Dinner before hand at 5:30 PM**

**Based on a true story!** When 4-year-old Colton Burpo emerges from life-threatening surgery, he offers an astounding account of his journey to heaven—including things that happened before he was born. Can his parents find the courage and conviction to believe their son's experience is true—and share it with the world?

*Starring Greg Kinnear & Kelly Reilly. Directed by Randall Wallace. Rated PG.*

### The Grace Behind the Story

The *Heaven Is for Real* movie is based on the compelling events described in the popular book by the same title. Both book and movie recount the moving story of Crossroads Wesleyan Church Pastor Todd Burpo (Imperial, Nebraska), his family, and the 2003 near-death experience of his three-year-old son Colton. Pastor Burpo relates how in the months following Colton's emergency surgery, the little boy began to remarkably describe events and people that should be impossible for him to have seen or met.

The faithful and authentic account of the Burpo family, their church, and their community unfolds not only a testimony to the hope of Jesus Christ's heaven, but also to the good news of his hope here and now. It's the age-old story of how people whose trust is in God experience their greatest suffering being transformed by God into blessing and glory.

The Burpos' story is not about a special revelation, nor is it a God-inspired description of heaven's geography or demographics. Rather, it is one more testimony to God's plan throughout human history: It's the story of God revealing glory's reality in terms that even a little child can understand. As the spirit of Colton's vision affirms, it is a God-given glimpse into the hope of heaven that awaits all who have his same childlike faith in Christ Jesus. But it also glimpses a foretaste of that hope as it is lived out in love by the body of Christ in its community.

# Meet Our CHURCH STAFF

**Church Office:** (805) 481-2692  
**E-mail:** fumcag@scbglobal.net  
**Senior Pastor:**  
 Rev. David M. Burgeson  
**Missionary (retired):**  
 Judy Atwood  
**Office Administrator:**  
 Sarah Burgeson  
**Website Manager:** Jamie Foster  
**Choir Director:** Julie Burns  
**Praise Team Director:** Susan Coho  
**Organist:** Don McGuire  
**Choral Pianist:** Dennis Eiler  
**Multi-Media Director:** Mike Coho  
**Puppet People, Chair:** Mike Herber  
**Handbell Choir Dir.:** Leonard Lutz  
**Christian Education Directors:**  
 Susan Coho, *Adult*  
 Mike & Linda Herber, *Youth*  
 Carolyn Russell, *Children's Interim*

**Bishop:** Minerva G. Carcaño  
**District Superintendent:**  
 Rev. Dr. Cedrick Bridgeforth

**AG UM Children's Center**  
**Director:** Madrigal Quaglino  
 E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net  
 Office: (805) 481-2223



**Chair:** Joe Brown  
**Members At Large:**  
 Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Pastor David Burgeson, Sarah Burgeson, Virginia Mothes, and Judy Leonard.  
**Layout Editor:** Sarah Burgeson  
**Proofing Team:** David Beaman, Judy Atwood, Virginia Mothes, and Judy Leonard.  
**Other contributors:**  
 ■ Varied Teams/Committees

**Deadline: Noon on October 10th.**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

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

## September 2014 Report



**Trustees Report**  
 Tom Egan, *Chair*

- If the Trustees were given a \$60,000 budget, we would be all set. The 2014-2015 budget was set at \$46,000 plus or minus, but I'll need close to \$48,000 because the original did not include the bus...Repairs, diesel, and insurance. But I'll make this work because I'll use one or two non-budget accounts. Now I'll have to pray that God has a good sense of humor.
- The Parsonage Fund went up \$3,000. We now stand at \$155,299. The budget for 2013-2014 was exceeded by 6%. As you can see, the bus is our Messy Church Sign. We were running out of lawn space.
- The vacant lot has been cleaned up and now needs a medium sized sign to advertise our intentions.
- Security is still a problem. Your feelings must be "someone will lock up". This does not work. I try to get up here after the 5:30 news and I'm locking doors and turning off lights. The cleaning crew is not blameless but neither is God's crew (not the musical crew for the first service). Everyone has to care.

God Bless - Tom Egan, *chair*



Bob Pierson	10/1
Kerren Brown	10/2
Val McClure	10/4
Daisey Paredes	10/5
Betty David	10/6
Bob Roemer	10/9
Lorie Ford	10/13
Bill Taylor	10/14
Chuck Buckton	10/14
Diane Laughlin	10/17
Al Harvey	10/17
RoseAnn Steiner	10/22
Mary Kelleher	10/24
Jeanne Jenkins	10/28
Gabe Prestemon	10/28
Rebecca Avila	10/29
Lila Anderson	10/29
Mary Hawkins	10/31



**Did we miss a birthday?**

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

# ATTENDANCE

Sunday	8:30 AM	10:30 AM	Under 4	K-12 <sup>th</sup>	Leaders	TOTAL
9/7	42	94	3	11	8	158
9/14	n/a	104	3	17	8	132
9/21	36	101	0	18	6	161
9/28	NO information available at date of printing publication.					n/a
<b>SUNDAY AVERAGE</b>						<b>150</b>



# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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

## scripture index

Please use with your personal Bible to prepare as you like for the upcoming sermon/ study.

- 10/5 Hebrews 10:19—25  
Discipleship: Worship
- 10/12 ***Heaven Is For Real*** Series  
Scripture to be announced
- 10/21 ***Heaven Is For Real*** Series  
Scripture to be announced
- 10/28 ***Heaven Is For Real*** Series  
Scripture to be announced

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**INSERT**

Children's Center Chronicle

## Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center



**Trike-a-Thon, Carnival Games, BBQ, Bake Sale  
Pumpkin Patch . . . and more!**

**October 11, 2014 from 11 AM - 1:30 PM**

This annual event is part of our Rock the Block Weekend.  
More information on Rock The Block on the cover of this issue.  
Tickets for the BBQ available in our Children's Center Office.