

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

Cast~A~Net

The Kingdom of God is like a net that was cast into the sea. ~ Matthew 13:47



The Smell of Christmas Is Not Always Pretty

By Bishop Sally Dyck*

Imagine this. You go to church, and the pastor dumps a bag of manure in the center aisle. Soon the stench begins to overwhelm the other aromas: the cologne people received in their Christmas stockings, pine branches, candles burning.

That might be the best Christmas sermon you could receive: a sensory message that jars your thinking about what Christmas is.

You see, the Christmas story begins with a certain stench. It's not just the cattle in the barn, but an economic situation where the emperor is taking a census to increase taxes in an already depressed economy. Political situations where people live as captives. Personal situations, such as Mary giving birth away from home. Her new family being homeless.

Christmas was born in stench.

For many people this Christmas, life stinks. Today it stinks that Grandma has Alzheimer's and sometimes doesn't even recognize your voice. It stinks to get that cancer diagnosis. It stinks to endure surgery. For some, it stunk long before the economic downturn, before they lost their jobs, before they wondered if anything would ever be the way it once was, before they got cancer, before the divorce, before bad things happened. For others, the stink is fresh and new, overpowering in its physical and spiritual pungency. We've all faced times in our lives and with each other that stink.

But life stinks sometimes, whether we made the stink ourselves or it just happens to us like a pile of manure being dumped on our parade.

Yet, even in the midst of the stink, the message of Christmas is: God is with us . . . and there must be a pony in there somewhere!

But how will people know God is with us and there's hope, like getting that pony, unless we who claim faith in Christ Jesus share that love with them?

It's a sweet-smelling Christmas for others and us when we share the love of God, the love of family and a faith community, and a hope that only comes from Christ Jesus to make a difference in a world that sometimes really stinks.

(*Bishop Sally Dyck is episcopal leader of the Minnesota Area; SOURCE: UMC.org)

How can you remove the stink of life and bring back the joy of Christmas this season? Consider these options: Grab a great biography of a person martyred for the faith to give you courage to share Christ. Sit next to someone new in church to spread the sense of family and share Christ's love. Give your time to a shelter or serve at a food kitchen to remember the blessings God gives us are usually when we give. Invite the service men & women our community to share in holiday activities and show you appreciate what they do for you. Spend time with a young child or an aging person to remember to slow down, enjoy each moment and listen to the Creator. **Be the light of Christ this Christmas!**



- **Mission Area Charge Conference**—11/3 at 12:30 PM at First UMC in Santa Maria. Please RSVP to office if you will attend.
- **Daylight Savings Time Ends**—11/4— Be sure to turn your clock back before bed on 11/3 - See you in church!
- **Alternative Christmas Sunday**—11/4—A day for missions.
- **Rummage Sale**—11/9-10 in Criswell Hall.
- **Children's Sunday School Favorite Foods Feast**—11/17 - set up at 11 AM—Feast begins at 12:30 PM in Criswell Hall -
- **AG UMC Children's Center Giving Soup Celebration**—11/21 at noon in Criswell Hall. (School is CLOSED at noon).
- **Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service** - 11/21 at 7 PM at St. Barnabus Episcopal Church in Arroyo Grande.
- **Advent Study Begins**—"Gifts that Don't Break" - A study for adults, youth & kids every Wednesdays of advent at 6 PM.



- **Hanging of the Greens**—12/1 at 10 AM
- **Sweet Adeline's 'Celebration Chorus' Christmas Concert**—12/2 at 2 PM UMC of AG Sanctuary.
- **Friends of Jonah Benefit Concert**—12/7 at 7 PM - To raise funds for Jonah Rock (son of Pastor Andy Rock of GB Pres.)
- **UMC of AG's People's Kitchen Team Party for the Needy**—12/13—*Shouts of Grace* at 12 PM—Help is welcome.
- **AG UMC Children's Center Holiday Program**—12/13 at 7 PM
- **UMM Christmas Musical Jubilee**—12/14 at 6 PM—9 PM All are welcome! Childcare available with reservation.
- **Central Coast Chordsmen & Barbershop Christmas Concert**—12/16 at 3 PM in the UMC of AG Sanctuary
- **Five Cities Christian Women Food Baskets**—week of 12/17
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services**—12/24 6 PM Family Service AND 7:30 PM Traditional Service
- **One 10:30 AM Worship Service & Potluck**—12/30
- **New Year's Eve Potluck & Game Night**—12/31
- **"Bible in 90 Days"** takes off New Year's Day—details inside!

Warm Welcome to the New Cal-Pac Conference Bishop

The following is a biography of Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño, newly appointed Bishop to the California – Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño is a native of Edinburg, Texas. A third generation Methodist she experienced the call to ordained ministry as a child though at that moment in her life she only knew that she felt called to live in the church. The church has been her home throughout her life.

She has served as a pastor in communities in Texas, California and New Mexico. She has served as a district superintendent in the West Texas and New Mexico area as well as in the greater Portland, Oregon area. She was the founding pastor of the ecumenical ministry, the South Albuquerque Cooperative Ministry, in Albuquerque, New Mexico which was recognized by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. as its outstanding ecumenical project in 1998. She has also directed the Mexican American Program, the Spanish language Course of Study School, and the Hispanic Studies Program of Perkins School of Theology. She was elected to the Episcopacy of The UMC in 2004 and has served as bishop of the Phoenix Area, the Desert Southwest Conference. She presently serves as President of the College of Bishops of the Western Jurisdiction, and is assigned as Resident Bishop of the Los Angeles Area.

As a young person she was an active youth leader in the Rio Grande Conference and later served on the Rio Grande Conference's Council on Ministry, Council on Finance and Administration, Committee on Equitable Compensation, Committee on Research and Development, and the Board of Ordained Ministry. Youth ministry introduced her to service in the connexional church serving first on the Jurisdictional Youth Council of the South Central Jurisdiction, and then going on to serve on the former Board of Education, the General Boards of Global Ministry and Church and Society, the Board of the Publishing House, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, and the General Commission on Religion and Race. She has also served on the National Cooperative Parish Ministry Committee, the Committee of the International Clergywomen's Consultation, the Hispanic Clergywomen's Consultation and the Committee of the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry.

In service to the General Conference of The UMC she has served on the Our Theological Task Committee, the Connexional Process Team, the Study Committee on the Relationship of The UMC and the Autonomous Affiliated Methodist Churches of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters. While living

and serving in the South Central Jurisdiction she also served on the Jurisdictional Committee for Korean Ministry and the Committee on Episcopacy. In the Western Jurisdiction, she has served on the Advisory Committee of the Korean Mission. She continues to serve as the Chair of the Interagency Task Force on Immigration for The UMC, and is a lead spokesperson on matters of immigration reform for the Council of Bishops.

Bishop Carcaño has had the opportunity to preach, teach, and speak at sessions of annual conferences, schools of Christian Mission, pastors' schools, youth and student events, at schools of theology and at a variety of United Methodist and ecumenical church consultations, and justice and human rights events all over the U.S., Brazil, Argentina, Cuba, Mexico, Zimbabwe, and Switzerland.

Out of a commitment to ecumenical and interfaith work she has served as President of the New Mexico Conference of Churches which awarded her its Turquoise Award for exemplary ecumenical leadership, and as the President of the Arizona Ecumenical Council. She has worked with the Industrial Areas Foundations projects in the Rio Grande Valley, El Paso, and Dallas, Texas, as well as in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Portland, Oregon, and most recently with the IAF projects in Arizona and Southern Nevada. She serves on the Southwest Industrial Education Fund Board. For her national work in the area of immigration reform she has been recognized with the Mary Rhodes Award from the Order of the Sisters of Loretto, and with the Lives of Commitment Award from Auburn School of Theology. The Arizona Interfaith Movement also recognized her with its Golden Rule Religious Award. She has served on the World Methodist Council and been a delegate to the World Council of Churches Assembly.

She is a graduate of the University of Texas at Pan American and Perkins School of Theology of Southern Methodist University. Both schools have honored her with their highest alumni recognitions. She is married to Thomas L. Spaniolo, a lawyer who specializes in immigration and criminal law. They have a daughter, Sofia T. Spaniolo-Carcaño, who is a student at Columbia College in Chicago, Illinois.

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North District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Cedrick Bridgeforth

Reverend Dr. Cedrick D. Bridgeforth is the Superintendent of the North District of the United Methodist Church.

He was born in Decatur, Alabama, and served four years in the United States Air Force (1988-1992). After completing military service, he returned to Alabama where he held several odd jobs before enrolling at Samford University in Birmingham. He graduated in May 1997, with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion. Rev. Bridgeforth ventured to Southern California in the Fall of 1997 to enroll at the Claremont School of Theology, where he completed his Master of Divinity degree in May 2000.

In 1999, he accepted his first pastoral appointment to the Bowen Memorial United Methodist Church in Los Angeles. He served as Director of Alumni/ae and Church Relations at Claremont School of Theology (2001-2003), prior to accepting his appointment to Crenshaw U.M.C. Rev. Bridgeforth continued his quest for high achievement in academia by earning a Doctor of Education degree in Organizational Leadership at Pepperdine University in 2005. Dr. Bridgeforth also serves as a course instructor for the University of LaVerne's Ecumenical Center for Black Church Studies where he teaches courses in Preaching, Church Administration and Contemporary Theology.

Rev. Bridgeforth was appointed as the Los Angeles District Superintendent on April 1, 2008. Reverend Bridgeforth was appointed as the North District Superintendent on July 1, 2012. He also continues to serve in several capacities within the United Methodist denomination and is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

He is deeply committed to revitalizing the Church of Jesus Christ. Rev. Bridgeforth's preaching is a unique blend hip-hop and popular culture, mainstream literature, current events, spoken word, humor, along with the uncompromised Word of God.

SOURCE: lakejunaluska.com/cedrick-bridgeforth

Creative Ideas for Celebrating Thanksgiving

Daniel T. Benedict, Jr. (from GBOD.org)

- Share Holy Communion on Thanksgiving Day. Communion is also called Eucharist -- sometimes from the Greek word in the NT *eucharisteo*, which means "thanksgiving." Holy Communion, in the forms that it is given in *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, is a festive and celebratory gathering, praising God for God's goodness. Combine Holy Communion with a shared meal following. This enacts the love feast and sacramental meal in a way that is similar to the way the early Christians held Communion. They did not separate eating and "breaking bread" as we generally do now.
- Look at the index on p. 938 in *The United Methodist Hymnal* under "Thanksgiving Day."
- Check in *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 416-418 for "Acts of Worship for Thanksgiving Eve, Day, or Sunday." See also 76-77, the "Great Thanksgiving Prayer" for Thanksgiving Evening or Day.
- Look at the resources in *The New Handbook of the Christian Year* (available from Cokesbury, 1-800-672-1789) for Thanksgiving. The commentary and introduction will help spark new ideas for what to do.
- Consider your community. Who is hungry? Who is lonely or alone for the holiday? Could your congregation or some of your people find ways to share the holiday's feasting and plenty? This may help your congregation get beyond boredom to a sense of reconnection with the root meaning of our true religion (see James 1: 19-27). Not everyone in the congregation will be able or will want to engage in this kind of sharing and caring, but that does not need to stop those God is prompting to do it.
- Invite people before the service or during the service to write down or talk in their households what they have experienced as gifts, blessings, or surprises during the last year. Find a way to "offer" these to God during Thanksgiving worship. People could name them at the offering, place them in an offering plate, or bring them to the altar table.
- Create a visual expression of "thanksgiving" that represents your setting and community. If you live in a farming community, use some of the harvest to express plenty and "the good seed of the land." If you live in a manufacturing community, bring some of products that are useful in meeting human needs into the worship space. This affirms that what we do in daily life is a way we serve God and others; for that, we can be very grateful!



Daniel T. Benedict, Jr., previously served as the director of worship resources for the General Board of Discipleship is now retired.

**REMEMBERING OUR
VETERANS**
November 11
We thank you for your service!



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

Bernie Hawkins, *President* Mike Johnson, *Vice President*
Wayne Huggins, *Treasurer* Tom Egan, *Devotions*
Val McClure, *UMM Publicity*

UMM SCHEDULES EXCITING MEETINGS FOR 2012/2013

November 17th, 8:30 AM in Criswell Hall

Methodist Men will be introduced to a live Red Tail Hawk when **Terry Cook** from the **Pacific Wildlife Organization** will discuss the on-going work of the Morro Bay Pacific Wildlife Care Center. The center is a non-profit completely volunteer organization trained to rehabilitate injured, orphaned, or pollution-damaged wild animals readying them for return to their natural habitat. Breakfast tickets at the door. All are invited to this event. (See below)

Nov. 18th Pancake Sunday

We wish to thank all the UMM crew who turned out to help for the first Pancake Breakfast on Sept. 23rd. Welcome back to Bud Johnson, the breakfast's chairman. Breakfasts are served from 8:45-10:30 AM on the designated Sundays. Tickets are available at the door at \$5 for adult and \$1 for youth under 10 years.

Christmas Musical Jubilee -Opens Season

UMM will host a special Christmas program on Friday, December 14th at 6pm in Criswell Hall here at First UMC of AG. This program of music and dancing will "lift up our spirits" according to Bernie Hawkins, UMM President. Child care will be furnished at no charge for this event (RESERVATIONS REQUIRED). This event is open to the church and our community—so bring a friend!

The program will include cowboy Christmas songs sung by Mike and Connie Clark with special music also sung by Cristy Eichelberger and Heidi Carpentier. The recorded music for dancing will be handled by Jordan Henderson. A Christmas meditation will be given by Pastor David M. Burgeson and will be included in the activities as well as a carol and gospel sing-a-long.

Criswell Hall is the original Sanctuary for the church and is now it's social hall and will be decorated with all the trimmings of Christmas. A delicious spread of refreshments will be available. This evening is completely free! So put on your holiday best and get out your dancing shoes. Let's begin the Christmas season with fun, fellowship and good food.



UMM Names Man of The Year

The United Methodist Men have named Wayne Huggins as "Man of the Year." Wayne, an 11 year member of the church, has been a loyal member of the UMM and has held

the officer position of Treasurer for the past five years. He has also been Endowment Board Chairman for the past five years; served during Sunday Services as an usher ever since he joined the Church. Huggins worked to help make our church's 125th Celebration successful and serves on the Administrative Board (currently called Church Council).

Wayne was borne in North Carolina and graduated from North Carolina State in 1962. During his university time he joined the Naval Reserves and in 1963 went to Officer Training School and received his commission as a Naval Officer. With his skills as a Radar Officer he was based in San Diego; he also spent two years with the Navy Corps of Engineers.

While still in the Navy, he was married in 1965, in San Diego to a lovely school teacher by the name Cecile. After leaving the Navy he worked for the Corning Glass Works in Wilmington, NC as a Process Engineer. During this time his two children were born, Mike was born in 1966 and Joanne in 1969. It was also in 1969 that the family moved to California. For a while he worked in Tech. Companies in Silicon Valley for 33 years as a Manufacturing Engineer.

His main interest now centers around his family, grandchildren, and working in the yard around his beautiful home in Arroyo Grande – and of course, his volunteer service in the UMC of AG.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
"MAN OF THE YEAR!"**



United Methodist Women

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

“I now remind you to stir into flame the gift of God which is within you.” 2 Timothy 1:6

“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.”

Sally Weitkamp, *UMW President*; Betty Ashton, *Treasurer*; Patti Melsheimer, *UMW Publicity*

United Methodist Women Is An Independent Body Once Again!

The 2012 Quadrennial General Conference of the United Methodist Church, which met in Tampa Florida in April, was historic for United Methodist Women. By a vote of 889 to 20 the General Conference made United Methodist Women an autonomous organization within the United Methodist Church.

“This is a great result for United Methodist Women and for the church and positions us for the next 143 years of mission,” said Harriett Jane Olson, chief executive of United Methodist Women’s policymaking body. General Conference also approved a series of recommendations from United Methodist Women that will structurally strengthen ties between local United Methodist Women members, their national structure and the ministries they support around the world. The actions will provide more flexibility to district, conference and jurisdictional United Methodist Women as they organize for mission in their respective communities.

Brooke Conklin, a UMW director from Upper New York Conference, describes some of the changes in this way. “In this new, independent structure, fewer elected officers are needed, which means we can invite

more people in for special tasks and leadership. There will not need to be a lengthy term of service for each person, which makes it easier to say yes to that invitation. And it offers the chance for more people to know who we are, what our mission is and to become excited to be a part of United Methodist Women! As our local unit seeks officers and leaders for the upcoming year’s programs, hopefully this will be incentive for more to say yes!

In her editorial in *Response* magazine, Yvette Moore says, “We have come a long way since our foremothers determined in 1869 to put their faith, hope and love into action by organizing themselves for mission focused on the needs and concerns of women, children and youth, those deemed ‘the least’, Christ’s kin, the most vulnerable in every nation including their own.”

Harriet Jane Olson concludes by saying, “Structural configurations alone will not make us the multigenerational, multicultural, multilingual, multiracial, Spirit-filled organization that we want to be but if we imagine it and build toward it and work toward it, I believe that God will bless our efforts beyond our wildest imagining.”



We are combining November and December’s meeting to adapt for the holidays—we have scheduled it **December 6th at 4 PM**. We will be discussing a book by Debbie Macomber entitled, *“One Simple Act: Discovering the Power of Generosity.”* IN this touching non-fiction, the author shares about how spiritual generosity can bring unforeseen miracles—small and large—to those who both give and receive them.

For our **January 24th** meeting, we will be reading, *“Half The Sky”* by Pulitzer Prize winners Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. In this book we undertake an odyssey through Africa and Asia to meet the extraordinary women struggling there, among them a Cambodian teenager sold into sex slavery and an Ethiopian woman who suffered devastating injuries in childbirth. Drawing on the breadth of their combined reporting experience, Kristof and WuDunn depict our world with anger, sadness, clarity, and, ultimately, hope.

Both books will be available with Patti Melsheimer after worship on Sunday in

UMW and the Display That Wasn’t!

United Methodist Women members didn’t have an exhibit at General Conference. They did, however, leave an “in mission” sign for inquiring minds:

In 600 square feet, it is impossible to show 143 years of women in mission, the work our members are doing in their churches and communities every day, the lives transformed through the global ministries of the Church, the ways United Methodist Women will move into the next 143 years. So instead, we used the money to fully fund the seminar education of two female local pastors in Cameroon. Turning faith, hope and love into action. United Methodist Women.

We Thank YOU!

Thank you to all who supported the UMW Holiday Boutique and Luncheon. Thanks to all who made items for the Boutique. Thanks to all who bought the items. Thank you to all who came for the Elegant Luncheon! A full report regarding the amount of money made from this activity and how it was dispersed to support UMW missions efforts for women and children at home and around the world will be in the next issue of the Cast-A-Net.





Victoria Gandy,

Children's Ministry Director

☆ **The Harvest Festival Parade was a hoot!** Thanks to the many families who came and rode the bus and the kids who helped give out water. (See pictures at left).

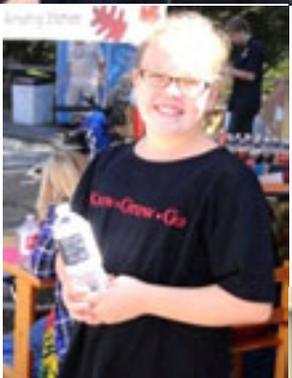
☆ **Thanks to all who participated in the Bake Sale for Family Fun Day. We made \$94.** Half of which will be given to the UMCOR Bore Well Project and the other will go to our Sunday School program.

☆ **Favorite Foods Feast—** November 17 at 12:30 PM—our kids will be bringing their favorite foods to serve to their friends and family members. Join us!

☆ **Kid's Night Out** continues Wednesday at 6 PM.

☆ **Christmas Nativity Program** is scheduled for the 6 PM Family Candlelight Service on December 24th. We pray that you bring your family.

☆ **We are always in need of teachers/volunteers,** if you have a heart for teaching Jesus to the little ones, contact me via the church office.



8:30 & 10:30 AM

ALL elementary kids meet in the Sanctuary at the beginning of worship, usually in the front pew, and are dismissed (with teachers) after our **Children's Moment**.

The first Sunday of the month, our group will go off to the McMillen Room for "What We Know Sunday" on our past lessons and then meet with the adults in the sanctuary for communion.

youth group SCHEDULE

Sundays - 10:30 AM

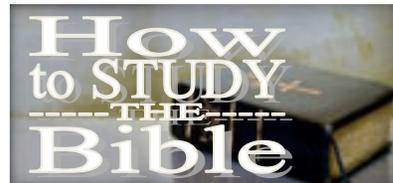
Wednesdays - 7 PM

Join these 6th-12th grade teens living for Christ (room 215).



Sundays - 9:45 AM

Come, take the message a little further in the McMillen Room.



Sundays - 6 PM

Take part in this ongoing look of the scriptures with Mike Herber.



Mondays - 7 PM

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



Adults - 6 PM

Kids Night Out - 6 PM

Youth Group - 7 PM

(See schedule at right)

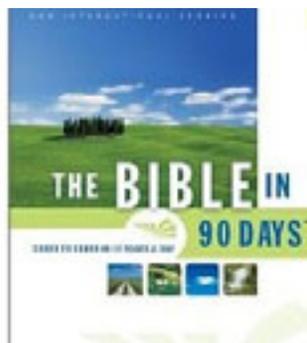
FREE Fellowship Meal at 5 PM



Fridays - 8:30 AM

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

Sunday, November 4 <i>Alternative Christmas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Sermon Series: <i>Extravagant Generosity</i> 9:45 AM Sermon Disciples Discussion Group 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i>—Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, Nov. 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Pastor's Study — <i>Extravagant Generosity</i>—Week 3
Sunday, November 11 <u>Pledge Sunday</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service Sermon Series: <i>Extravagant Generosity</i> NO Discussion Group 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i>—Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, Nov. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Pastor's Study — <i>Extravagant Generosity</i>—Week 4
Sunday, November 18 <u>Thanksgiving Sunday</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services 9:45 AM Sermon Disciples Discussion Group 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i>—Teaching & Discussion Group
Wednesday, Nov. 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 PM Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service at St. Barnabus
Sunday, November 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services 9:45 AM Sermon Disciples Discussion Group 6 PM <i>How to Study the Bible</i>—No class—Resumes Jan. 6th!
Wednesday, Nov. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Advent Study - "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break"
Sunday, December 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon Series: "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break" 9:45 AM Sermon Disciples Discussion Group
Wednesday, Dec. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Advent Study - "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break"
Sunday, December 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon Series: "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break" 9:45 AM Sermon Disciples Discussion Group
Wednesday, Dec. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Advent Study - "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break"
Sunday, December 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon Series: "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break" 9:45 AM Sermon Disciples Discussion Group
Wednesday, Dec. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Advent Study - "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break"
Sunday, December 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon Series: "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break" 9:45 AM Sermon Disciples Discussion Group
Wednesday, Dec. 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Advent Study - "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break"
Sunday, December 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ONE 10:30 AM Worship & Leftovers Potluck NO Discussion Group
Monday, Dec. 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM New Years Eve Potluck and Game Night 7 PM Holy Communion and New Years Meditation



“Bible in 90 Days” is a journey we will take as a church beginning in January 2013. It’s easier than you think!

By taking short trips, what you thought was a long journey through the Bible’s history and message actually, becomes doable and enjoyable. Come and join us on this adventure you will never forget—and get nearer to the heart of God.

Sunday

Monday

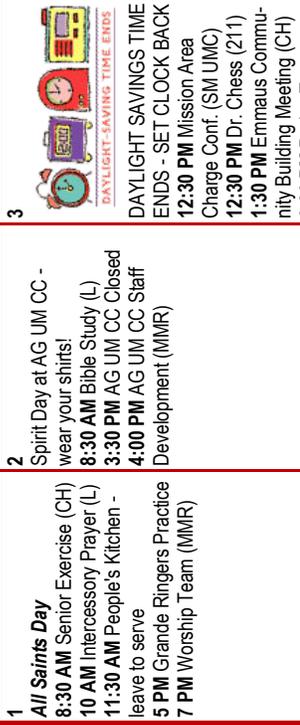
Tuesday

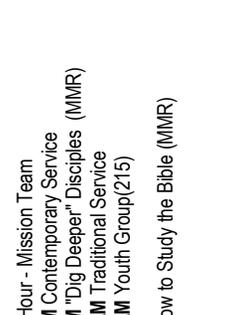
Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



<p>4 Coffee Hour - Trustees Daylight-Saving Time Ends Alternative Christmas Sunday</p> <p>8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>5 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AAnon (MMR) 7:30 PM AlaTeen (211)</p>	<p>6 Election Day (CH) 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 5:20-9 PM Christian Counseling for Ladies - call office for info. (L) 7 PM Trustees (MMR)</p>	<p>7 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM EOC Health Screen 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 6 PM Adult Bible Study (MMR) 6 PM Kids Night Out 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>8 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Rummage Sale Set-up 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 6:15 PM Staff (MMR)</p>	<p>9 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>10 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>11 Coffee Hour - JOY Circle VETERAN'S DAY Pledge Sunday—bring your pledge card! 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>11:45 AM Christian Ed. Team (MMR) 6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>12 Closed to Observe Veteran's Day 12 PM Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Group (MMR) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AAnon (MMR) 7:30 PM AlaTeen (211)</p>	<p>13 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10 AM UMMW Steering (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers 5:20-9 PM Christian Counseling for Ladies - call office for info. (L) 6 PM Arroyo Grande MS Support Group (MMR)</p>	<p>14 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 12:30 PM Alzheimer's Association Care Giver Support Group (Ch) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 6 PM Adult Bible Study (MMR) 6 PM Kids Night Out 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>15 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen - 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice WOW (MMR)</p>	<p>16 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 12 PM Alzheimer's Support Group for Adult Children of Parents (MMR)</p>	<p>17 8:30 AM UMMW Breakfast (CH/S/K) 11 AM Children's Sunday School Thanksgiving Favorite Foods Family Lunch (CH/K) 11:30 AM Choir Vocal Workshop (S) 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 6:30 PM Praise Team</p>
<p>18 Coffee Hour—UMM Pancake Breakfast 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>19 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AAnon (MMR) 7:30 PM AlaTeen (211)</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) Preschool Board meeting 2 PM closed session & 3:30 PM open session 5 PM Grande Ringers 5:20-9 PM Christian Counseling for Ladies - call office for info. (L) 7 PM JOY Circle</p>	<p>21 Offices Closed 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 12 PM Children's Center Giving Soup Celebration—minimum day. 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 7 PM Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Arroyo Grande</p>	<p>22 Closed- NO Meetings! Thanksgiving Day</p> 	<p>23 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>24 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>25 Coffee Hour - Mission Team 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p> <p>6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>26 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AAnon (MMR) 7:30 PM AlaTeen (211)</p>	<p>28 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice 5:20-9 PM Christian Counseling for Ladies - call office for info. (L) 7 PM Church Council (MMR)</p>	<p>29 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM Story Time with Pastor David & Goodie Bear (N) 9:30 AM Mary-Martha (CH) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 6 PM Advent Study Begins (MMR) 6 PM Kids Night Out 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>29 8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9:30 AM Story Time with Pastor David & Goodie Bear (10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 2 PM Mission Team 5 PM Grande Ringers</p>	<p>30 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p>	

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

NOTE: Children's Sunday School & Nursery care at both Sunday services.

<p>2</p> <p>Coffee Hour - Finance 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School "What We Know Sunday" (MMR) 2 PM Sweet Adeline's "Celebration Chorus" Christmas Concert (S)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7:00 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR) 7:30 PM Alateen (211)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 2:30 PM Communications 5 PM Grande Ringers 5:20 PM Christian Counseling for Ladies - call office for specific group information (211) 7 PM Trustees (MMR)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM Senior Health Screen (NL) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 6 PM Advent Study #2 (MMR) 6 PM Kids Night Out 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen - leave to serve 12:30-3:30 PM Alzheimer's Care-giver's Café for Holidays (CH) 4 PM Book Club (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 7 PM Worship Team (MMR)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Spirit Day at AG UM CC - wear your shirts! 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3:30 PM AG UM CC Closed 4:00 PM AG UM CC Staff Development (MMR) 7 PM Friends of Jonah Concert and Surgery Fundraiser for the son of Pastor Andy Rock of GB Pres. Church (S)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Choir Christmas Party at the home of the Heisheimers 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Coffee Hour--Mary/Martha & Library 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 11:45 AM Christian Ed. Team (MMR)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:30 AM AG UM Children's Center Holiday Program Practice (S) 12 PM Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Support Group (MMR) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR) 7:30 PM Alateen (211)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 9:30 AM AG UM Children's Center Holiday Program Practice (S) 10 AM UMW Sleering (L) 2 PM Endowment Board (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers 5:20 PM Christian Counseling for Ladies - call office info (211) 6 PM AG MS Support Group—Meeting offsite for Holiday</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM AM UM CC Holiday Program Practice (S) 12:30 PM Alzheimer's Association Care Giver Support Group (CH) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 6 PM Advent Study #3 (MMR) 6 PM Kids Night Out 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9:30 AM AG UM Children's Center Holiday Program Practice (S) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen Christmas Party 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice 7 PM AG UM Children's Center Holiday Program</p>	<p>14</p> <p>AG UM Children's Center P J Day 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 6 PM Christmas Musical Jubilee (CH)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30 AM UMW Breakfast (CH/ISK) 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Coffee Hour--Christian Ed. Team 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 3 PM Barbershop Quartet (S)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>12 PM FCCW basket set-up - (CH) 6 PM Debtors Anon (MMR) 7 PM Men's Bible Study (215) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S) 7:30 PM AIAnon (MMR) 7:30 PM Alateen (211)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8 AM FCCW Food Basket (CH) 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 2 PM Preschool Board - closed 3:30 PM Preschool Board - open s 5 PM Grande Ringers 5:20 PM Christian Counseling for Ladies - call office info (211) 7 PM JOY Circle Christmas Party</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9:00 AM Church Work Day 5:00 PM Free Dinner (CH) 6:00 PM Advent Study #4 (MMR) 6:00 PM Kids Night Out 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7:00 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 1 PM FCCW Set-up for food basket giveaway 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice 7 PM Women of Worth - WOW (MMR)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>AG UM Children's Center Minimum Day First Day of Winter 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 12:00 PM Alz. Assoc. Support for Adult Children of Parents (MMR) 7 PM FCCW Basket Give-Away - pending (CH)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Coffee Hour--Worship Team 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 9:45 AM "Dig Deeper" Disciples (MMR) 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6 PM FAMILY SERVICE 7:30 PM TRADITIONAL SERVICE</p>	<p>25</p> <p>CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN!</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM Mary-Martha (CH) 1:00 PM Dr. Chess 5:00 PM Free Dinner (CH) 6 PM Adult (MMR) 6 PM Kids Night Out 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise Group (CH) 9:30 AM Story Time With Pastor David & Goodie Bear (N) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 4 PM Un-Hanging of the Greens 6:30 PM Praise Team</p>
<p>30</p> <p>10:30 AM COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE & ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK Casual Service (S) Youth Group(215) Children's Sunday School (211) Nursery Care (Nursery)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Check with your group to see if they will be meeting on This holiday evening. 5:6 PM Potluck and game Night</p>	<p>THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR!</p>	<p>THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR!</p>	<p>THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR!</p>	<p>THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR!</p>	<p>THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR!</p>



News from the Mission Team

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS: JUDY ATWOOD

Many new things to report this edition! Read carefully so as not to miss out:

- 1) **United Methodist Student Day, Nov 25th.**
- 2) Meet our Covenant Missionary,
- 3) Nothing But Nets—*Imagine No Malaria* Project,
- 4) Mission Team News,
- 5) Clean Water for All,
- 6) Alternative Christmas—Nov. 4, 2012
- 7) 2012 Special Giving Update (last 9 months)

1) **GOD’S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION**

UM Student Day Sunday November 25. “Never before has it been so important to give to the six church wide Special Sundays with offerings. Giving to Special Sundays prepares students to become leaders for the church and the world; empower the poor and victimized to live fuller lives through self-improvement programs; advocate and challenge injustice and pays administrative cost for disaster relief. You can change the world one life at a time.

2) **COVENANT MISSIONARY: FRIDO KINKOLENGE**

He is serving as Director of Children’s Ministries in the Liberian Annual Conference and Emk Weltmission Children’s Project Manager in Liberia. A copy of his bio is in a folder on our bulletin board.



3) **NOTHING BUT NETS:** Luanda, Angola -- On Friday, October 12, residents of Bom Jesus, Angola received 9,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets to help protect them from malaria. The nets will be delivered house-to-house throughout the community by a locally trained cadre of community educators who will also host a delegation of United Methodists from the U.S. and the West Angola United Methodist Church. The local NGO Africare has been a significant partner in planning this program, the first for The UMC in Angola.

4) **MISSION TEAM NEWS:** Your Mission Team has been busy encouraging all of you to participate in mission outreach in some way and many of you have been as you can see by looking at the Special Giving Chart. We are looking for new ways we can be in mission outreach. So please share your ideas with us. GOD HAS NO HANDS BUT OURS.

5) **CLEAN WATER FOR ALL:** On Saturday, September 8th at 11:30 a.m. we held a potluck lunch for the kick off of the Water Bore Hole Wells in Africa. As a result, we have had an anonymous donor give us the amount

for one well. SO... Let’s see how we as a congregation can raise the funds for a second one. We already have a start. This is also a project of the Cal-Pac conference. I know I appreciate my clean water and I expect you do also. Let’s help others to have the same for their families.

- 6) **ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4:** Plan ahead for sharing with others this Christmas. You can also do this as a way of honoring someone or in remembrance of someone. We will have cards for you to pick up when you make a donation if this is your desire. Your options this year continue to be our three local... .5 Cities Christian Women Food Pantry, People’s Kitchen, and South County Food Bank . There will also be national giving opportunities for Disaster Response, as well as, international for the Bore Well Project. Pray about what you can do to be in ministry with others.

Many hands can do many things!



**THANKS again...
For Your Ministry
Responses &
Special Givings!**

LOOK AT THE MANY WAYS WHERE YOU ARE PLUGGED INTO MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. WE CELEBRATE YOU!!!

- 7) Here are the first 9 months of giving for 2012. Many thanks for your faithfulness—you have blessed many!

Special Giving for 2012	
Buckets	1060.00
ELT Scholarships	560.00
Five Cities Christian Women’s Food Pantry	50.00
Human Relations Day	211.00
John Elmore	371.68
Mission Team	100.00
Native American Sunday	91.00
Nothing But Nets - <i>Imagine No Malaria</i>	1039.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	616.00
People’s Kitchen	1970.00
Peace With Justice Sunday	148.00
So. County Food Bank	962.52
UMCOR: Tornados	50.00
UMCOR: Hurricanes	55.00
Wells for Africa	4,861.07
9 Months of Giving Total	12,144.59



UMC of AG's People's Kitchen Team

serves *hot meals* to our community at the *Shouts*

of *Grace Church* in Grover Beach on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month. At 11:30 AM, the team leaves from UMC of AG ready to shine for Christ. To help, see the *Ashtons*.

Always In Need Of: CLEAN seasonal clothes, travel-sized toiletries, bedding, towels, oral hygiene supplies (tooth brushes & toothpaste, etc.), new socks, and people to make casseroles—we *supply the ingredients*.

Contact the *Ashtons* for details.

Thank you all for your support in Sock Sunday. On behalf of the needy that we serve, you are a blessing!

Five Cities Christian Women Food Pantry



The Five Cities Christian Women (FCCW) are giving out food baskets again this year and need your help!

The group plans to help over 60 families and needs the following items: canned yams, canned fruit, canned pumpkin—all large cans, canned veggies, olives, milk, chicken broth, large boxes of dressing & Jell-O, boxed mashed potatoes & cake mix.

Our expenses thru August this year totaled just over \$27,382. Of this amount, \$25,052 was for food and \$2,320 for operating expenses – making 91% of the monies we receive go to food only. Checks may be made out to **Five Cities Christian Women** and mailed to P.O. Box 756, GB, 93483.



Library News

Christmas DVDs!!! *The True Christmas Story*—Discover fascinating truths about events surrounding the birth of Christ. See true mangers, much like the one in which Jesus was born not like the sanitized ones of today. *Bethlehem Year Zero*—The birth of Jesus as a TV news stations would report it today. We also have, *The Christmas Choir*, and *The Mystery of the Three Kings*.

Boy, do we have Christmas books! There are books on crafts, beloved Christmas story classics and children's books. There are 2 books by Richard Evans, *The Christmas Candle* and *The Christmas Box*. Come and check out the library—we have a lot to offer! We will be decorating for the season, too! Come visit!



Among several new members joining our church, you have probably noticed a young family attending over the last several months...please welcome the Stednitz family.

Damien and Jayme are both originally from Nebraska where they both attend and graduated from Wesleyan University, a Methodist College in Lincoln. Jayme received her PhD in Psychology from Texas Tech and is a licensed child psychologist. Damien received his masters degree in Organizational leadership from Woodbury University and is a senior divisional sales manager in the pharmaceutical industry.

Damien and Jayme have been married 13 years and have two children, Carter (5) and Harper (18 months). They have lived in California for the past 9 years, but only recently moved to the Central Coast from Los Angeles. They live in Pismo Beach and are excited about being a part of the Five Cities community.

You will also notice that some faces that you have seen around for a while have made their membership official. Welcome, Pam Bauske, Ann Smith, Jan & Art Moore, and Victoria Gandy to the flock.

We are so pleased to have them all join our church family. Please remember to look for them on Sunday and extend a warm UMC of AG family welcome to these new members. Take the time to get to know them, you will be glad that you did.



Trustees Report

Tom Egan, *Chair*

It has been some time since I last shared with you the actions of the Trustees, so I'll share with you both September & October meetings.

September Report

- The difficulty of seeing images on our large screen has come up once more. A new projector is costly and the screen is about as good as it gets. Outside light coming in is no help. We have talked about installing outdoor blinds on both windows. We now need to look at the price and size. This we'll do.
- The Coho's (our Christian Ed. Director/Praise Team & Multi Media Director) have requested some changes to the room next to the stage in the Sanctuary. This needs more discussion and time. A laptop has been suggested to replace 2 or 3 computers that take up a lot of space, but this too is expensive.
- At the end of August, our Parsonage Fund stood at \$124,683. This is a thousand dollar gain. We used 97% of our budget. Close but on the good side. We have enough money to complete all beautification projects of the House of the Lord.
- We are in the process of installing a new internet system that will make the internet available to rooms other than the office. More to be done.
- Just getting an estimate to install a solar system on our roof has turned into more of a hassle than anticipated. I have not thrown in the towel.
- Due to Communion spillage, we had to have the carpet near the alter cleaned. Services were donated so no cost to the Church. If possible, please be careful with the grape juice. If it happens again, I know someone who will gladly clean it.
- Good news: Bill and Gladys Paulson's daughter has agreed to paint a picture of the Methodist flame and cross outside the McMillen Room. Stay tuned.
- I need to talk to Peter Paredes about the tree next to the sidewalk that drops its fruit on the sidewalk and driveway. I think there is a spray that will stop this.
- Maddy would like to re-carpet the nursery. The Kiwanis told her to get them 2 or 3 bids. She has. Stay tuned.
- After spraying for termites, the gas company came back to turn on our pilots. I'm sure he thought this would take a couple of minutes. We probably won't get a Christmas card from him. All lines from the gas supply line to the heater are obsolete. He suggested we change them when we can. One of the heaters in the youth lounge was tagged as "non-operable." It is repairable.
- Don said the sun rays coming through the windows make it hard for him to see the music. This will be taken care of..
- Church Office computer has crashed and needs a new one. Tom will work with Sarah to get one ordered. The Trustees will pick up the bill. Aren't those people great?

October Report

- Financials still look good. The Parsonage Fund went up a little over \$2,000 to \$127,050. Once again we used 97% of our budget. One would wonder how we get so much done with such a skimpy budget? Huh?
- As you know, all beautification projects have been completed. Thank you Lord.
- The sun will no longer be a problem to Don. The windows have been tinted.
- The two sewer system pumps that take drainage to the street sewer, have "taken a dump" (pardon the pun) both been replaced.
- The vacant lot came up for discussion once again. An idea from the Board was to put in a BBQ pit, tables and chairs (benches), a horseshoe pit, an awning or two, and enjoy. There could be organized activities, picnics, or just relax. We are open to ideas—bring them to the Trustees.
- Recently new plants were killed by the termite tenting and needed to be replaced. This was made possible by the Mary Lou Fink, J. McKibben and the Obayashi Memorial Funds. A big thank you to those who supported those memorials. God is good. When? (YES—All the time!)



Wednesdays

at 9AM

Join us as we clean-up our house of worship—Come and spruce up this House of the Lord *there is always something to do and places that need work.*

We thank those diligent stewards who help each week to make this a wonderful place to worship!

Come, contribute as you are able—all are welcome!





**Choir Returns to Loft,
Fall Activities Planned**

The Chancel Choir returned to the pews on **September 9th** for **Rally Day**. They performed two anthems. The Choir has welcomed back former members Doug and Ella Craig who are both singing tenor. The Choir also welcomes new members, Christy Clarke, singing tenor, and Diane Hendrickson, singing soprano.

The Choir has several activities planned in the next couple of months. On November 17th at 11:30 AM, the choir will hold a **Vocal Workshop** with exercises to warm us up for the anthems of the Advent season in our church Sanctuary. Join us!

On December 8th, the Annual **Choir Christmas Party** will be held at the home of choir member Patti Melsheimer. Also, in December the Choir will be singing at several Retirement Centers.

It is not too late to be a part of these activities. If you enjoy singing and good fellowship, make plans to join us for rehearsals on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. See you there!

Kent Unsworth, *Publicity*

PENNIES FOR TURKEYS

Join the Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center and **SAVE** your pennies.

On November 21 during the Giving Soup Celebration, our Children's Center will present the Five Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry with pennies collected over the month of November. With them the ladies will help supply food to needy families of our community. *Contact preschool office with any questions.*



**Arroyo Grande United Methodist
Children's Center Holiday Program**

December 13 at 7 PM

The children, families and teachers of the AG UM CC invite YOU to a program celebrating this special holiday season. Come see them sing selections that they have been working on just for you and stay for some goodies in Criswell Hall.

*"I will make a righteous
Branch sprout from
David's line; he will do
what is just and right
in the land."*

Jeremiah 33:15, NIV

From AG UM
Children's Center

To the many who helped to make our Family Fun Day a HUGE success, we thank you!

***We could not have done
this without YOU!***

Contributors and Volunteers helped us to raise over \$2000 for our program.

Well Done!

Healthy Corner

submitted by Patti Melsheimer

Make this the Holiday Season You Reverse the Trend!

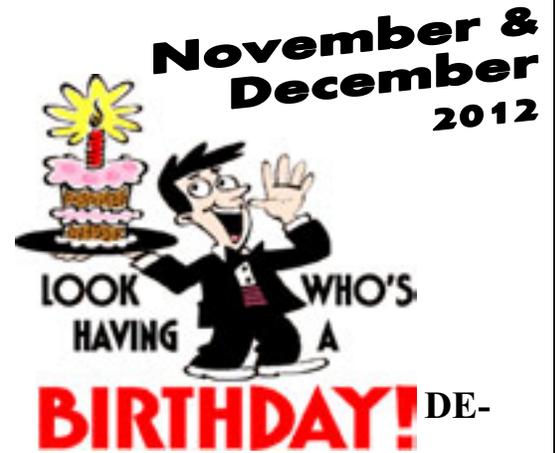
Indulge in rich foods over the holiday season and you may wind up paying the price in extra pounds. While research shows that most people don't gain as much weight as they fear they will over the holidays, many can't seem to lose their holiday pounds afterward. The extra weight can build up over the years and contribute to obesity later in life. Why not make this the year you reverse the trend and stop gaining weight over the holidays?

"Weight gain over the holidays is a large part of the typical weight gain that adults have over the years," says Dr. Jack Yanovski, head of the Unit on Growth and Obesity at NIH. He and his colleagues found that almost all the weight people had gained over the course of a year could be explained by the pounds they added over the holiday period. That's why it's particularly important to make sure you maintain your weight during the holiday season.

Here are some tips for keeping weight off during the holidays:

- **Physical activity.** People who are more active are more likely to maintain their weight during the holidays.
- **Limit alcohol consumption.** Alcohol can be a major source of hidden calories.
- **Limit soda and other sweetened beverages.** These drinks add extra calories, too.
- **Schedule holiday food celebrations at normal meal times.** Celebrations outside of normal meal times encourage people to pile on extra calories.
- **Choose foods with fewer calories.** Foods with fewer calories for their size make you feel fuller sooner.
- **Use smaller plates.** The bigger your plate and the more food that's on it, the more you're likely to eat in the end.
- **Eat a healthy snack beforehand.** You'll be less likely to eat a lot of fattening food at the party.
- **Weigh yourself daily.** And plan how you'll get back on track if your weight begins to creep up.

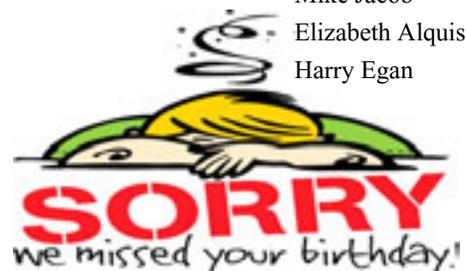
No matter how much you weigh, it's wise to watch your weight over the holidays. It's better to keep it off now than to try to lose it later. (Summarized from the National Institute of Health newsletter, 11/08)



NOVEMBER

CEMBER

Joy Collins	11/2	David Beaman	12/3
Marj Wolters	11/4	Dell McCracken	12/4
Bill Cross	11/5	Michael Balster	12/7
Patrick Harvey	11/7	Adeline Bottorff	12/8
Harold Headrick	11/8	Isabella Sloan	12/8
Caitlin Riley	11/9	Danica Leonard	12/8
Bonnie Swafford	11/13	Mike Coho	12/9
Ross Roemer	11/14	Gage Dowd	12/9
Jim Harvey	11/15	Mike Clark	12/9
Rosemary MacKeen	11/16	Kathleen Ballagh	12/9
Carol Ferrari	11/18	Eva McClure	12/9
Lynn Foster	11/21	Jamie Foster	12/9
Helen Gugeler	11/21	Susan Thronson	12/13
Nick Ballagh	11/23	Ken Leonard	12/14
Matt Rohla	11/23	Julie Burns	12/16
Adrian Paredes	11/23	Kent Unsworth	12/20
Jessica Williams	11/25	Doug Ballagh	12/21
David Burgeson	11/26	Harold Bailey	12/21
Iris Caldron	11/26	Duncan Leonard	12/22
Larry Wiemers	11/28	Cyndee Rohla	12/24
Delbert Hollinger	11/29	Tom Gilliland	12/24
		Eric Duffin	12/26
		Jed Moore	12/27
		Nicole Baughman	12/27
		Roy Ferrari	12/28
		Mike Jacob	12/28
		Elizabeth Alquist	12/29
		Harry Egan	12/30



Did we miss a birthday?
Contact our church office.



Church Office: (805) 481-2692
E-mail: fumcag@scbglobal.net
Senior Pastor:
 Rev. David M. Burgeson
Missionary (retired):
 Judy Atwood
Office Administrator:
 Sarah Burgeson
Bookkeeper: Victoria Gandy
Website Manager: Jamie Foster
C 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*
 Victoria Gandy, *Children*
Bishop: Minerva G. Carcaño
District Superintendent:
 Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth
AG UM Children's Center
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 ▪ Varied Teams/Committees
Deadline: 10th of each month

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

November 2012		
Date	Meeting/Event	Time
11/1	All Saints Day	
11/1	People's Kitchen	11:30 AM
11/3	Mission Area Charge Conf.	12:30 PM
11/3	Emmaus Community Building Meeting	1:30 PM
11/3	Praise Team	6:30 PM
11/3	SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK	Bedtime
11/4	ONE Worship Service Alternative Christmas	10:30 AM
11/6	Board of Trustees	7 PM
11/8	Esther Circle	noon
11/8	Staff Meeting	6:15 PM
9-10	Rummage Sale	9 AM
11/11	Christian Ed. Team	11:45 AM
11/12	Veterans Day	CLOSED
11/13	UMW Steering Committee	10 AM
11/13	People's Kitchen	11:30 AM
11/15	Women of Worth	7 PM
11/17	UMM Breakfast Meeting	8:30 AM
11/17	Kid's Sunday School Favorite Foods Feast	11 AM
11/17	Vocal Workshop	11:30 AM
11/17	Praise Team	6:30 PM
11/20	Preschool Board ▪ Closed session ▪ Open session	— 2 PM 3:30 PM
11/13	JOY Circle	7 PM
11/22-23	OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving Holiday	—
11/21	AG UM Children's Center Giving Soup Celebration	12 PM
11/21	Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service at St. Barnabas	7 PM
11/22	Thanksgiving Day	CLOSED
11/22	NO Book Club	canceled
11/27	Church Council	7 PM
11/29	Mary-Martha Circle	9:30 AM
11/29	Mission Team	2 PM



November 3
 Set your clocks back ONE hour.



December 2012		
Date	Meeting/Event	Time
12/1	Hanging of the Greens	10 AM
12/1	Celebration Chorus Sweet Adeline's Rehearse	12:30 PM
12/2	Celebration Chorus Sweet Adeline's Christmas Concert	2 PM
12/4	Communications	2:30 PM
12/4	Trustees	7 PM
12/6	People's Kitchen	11:30 AM
12/6	Alz. Assoc. Care Givers Café for the Holidays	12:30 PM
12/6	Worship Team	7 PM
12/6	UMW Book Club	4 PM
12/7	Friends of Jonah Concert	7 PM
12/8	Choir Christmas Party	?
12/9	Christian Education Team	11:45 AM
12/11	UMW Steering	10 AM
12/11	Endowment Board	2 PM
12/13	UMC of AG People's Kitchen Team Party for the Needy	11:30 AM
12/13	Esther Circle	noon
12/13	AG UM CC Holiday Program	7 PM
12/14	Christmas Musical Jubilee	6 PM
12/15	UMM Breakfast Meeting	8:30 AM
12/16	Barbershop Chorus Concert	3 PM
12/18	Preschool Board ▪ Closed session ▪ Open session	— 2 PM 3:30 PM
12/18	JOY Circle	7 PM
12/20	Women of Worth—WOW	7 PM
12/21	FCCW Basket Giveaway	9 AM
12/24	Christmas Eve Services Family service Traditional Service	— 6 PM 7:30 PM
12/25	Christmas Day	CLOSED
12/29	UN-Hanging of the Green	4 PM
12/30	ONE Service and Potluck	10:30 AM
12/31	New Year's Eve Potluck and Game Night	5:30 PM



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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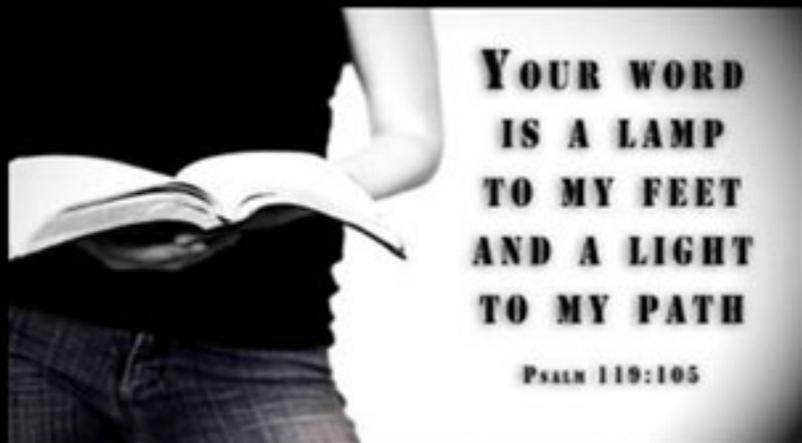
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INSERT:

Children's Center Chronicle



THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS

WHOLE CHURCH CHALLENGE

Begins New Year's Day 2013

Adults – Youth – Children

Daily Readings - Weekly Bible Studies - Sermon Series
Contact Susan Coho, Education Director for more info