



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

Cast ~ A ~ Net

“Know Christ, Grow in Christ, Go—

Holy Week 2014



In Matthew’s gospel, the writer shares with us that it was on the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread (also known as the Passover), that the disciples came to Jesus and asked him where He would like to eat the traditional Passover meal. Jesus told them, they prepared it and it was that night, during the supper, Jesus told them that one of His very own would betray Him. None of them believed this. It was that night, that Jesus had His Last Supper. After dinner they shared in the first communion, and went out to the Mount of Olives to pray. It was there that Jesus was betrayed with a kiss. This is the night we remember when we honor Maundy Thursday.

Maundy Thursday

April 17 (between 6:30 - 7:30 PM)

Come to the Sanctuary anytime between 6:30 PM and 7:30 PM for a time of Quiet Holy Communion. This is NOT a formal service, so come as you are at anytime in that hour. You will have a self directed guide with Holy Communion by Pastor David.



Annual Ecumenical Service for Good Friday

April 18 at 3 PM

hosted this year by

St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

Six churches, including First UMC Of Arroyo Grande, will participate in this very special service remembering the Crucifixion of Jesus. Soloists and congregational singing and readings from the gospel of Matthew will tell the story of Passion of the Lord.

Good Friday Evening Service

Grover Beach Presbyterian and First UMC of Arroyo Grande will be joining together in remembrance of **Good Friday on April 18 at 7 PM.**

The choirs & the Tolosa Strings will perform John Rutter’s *“Requiem.”*

This is a service that you will not want to miss. Set to music, the story of Good Friday is told with choral music along with the Tolosa Strings. Pastors Andy Rock and David Burgeson will host this evening remembering the last minutes of Christ.



Join us Easter Sunday to Celebrate - He is Risen!

8:30 AM Casual

Contemporary Service

will have its usual format joined by the *Grand Ringers Handbell Choir* in praise and celebration honoring the Risen King Jesus.

10:30 AM Traditional Service

will enjoy traditional worship with the *Resurrection Story* told by Pastor David as we continue through “The Story.” Our chancel choir will be singing a special Easter anthem entitled, *“See What a Morning,”* and the *Grande Ringers Handbell Choir* will be joining us in worship for this service also. The Celebration will conclude with the *Hallelujah Chorus.*

11:30 AM Easter Brunch

Our Christian Education Team will host an **Easter Brunch immediately following the second service.** All are invited, so bring your family and share in the Joy of His Promise.

Shepherd's Notes

David Burgeson, *Pastor*

Dear Friends,

Last month I shared at the end of my Shepherd's notes we need to keep in front of us and turn our focus to the primary goal of our church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Here is some more about how we can/do this in our local church.

Discipleship is a road map for mission and ministry. One such way is to identify the ministries in which we nurture children, youth and adults in Christian faith; to describe/identify outreach opportunities for our congregation to respond to the local and global community; and to develop/include strategies for our witness to the love and grace of God. This is a simple way for us to develop a strategic plan, by analyzing and classifying the various ministries of our congregation. Let's take a look briefly at ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness.

Nurture Ministries include worship, Sunday school and other small groups and other settings for spiritual formation. These ministries assist people of all ages in developing and deepening their relationship with God. Ways this can happen: Opportunities to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ; Provide a supportive, caring community for people to face a variety of daily opportunities and challenges. These ministries may zero primarily on the Scriptures, worship, prayer, or other aspects of the Christian faith, or they may be topical dealing with issues of daily life, such as grief, addiction, divorce or parenting.

Outreach Ministries are involved in responding to the needs of others. You will recall when Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was, he replied, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your soul, and with all your mind, and all your strength." He went on to say, "The second is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Nurture ministries help us love God. Outreach ministries help us love others. They are faith in action.

Witness Ministries provide a way for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ to a world broken and hurting. These ministries zero in enabling people to the active presence of God in their lives and develop ways of talking about their experience of God. Including, but not limited to, assisting people to listen to the stories of others who need to hear a word of encouragement, hope, love and grace. These ministries may include evangelism, lay servant ministries, and communication through website, newsletter, and bulletin.

More Next Month! God bless.

Pastor David M. Burgeson

Together in ministry,



scripture index

Please refer to *page 3* for the scripture references for use with your personal Bible and corresponding sermon/ study chapter of *The Story*.

- 4/6 Chapter 25: Jesus
- 4/13 Chapter 26: Jesus
- 4/20 Chapter 27: Jesus
- 4/27 Chapter 28: Early Church

ATTENDANCE

March 2014

- 3/2 128
- 3/9 114 (ONE service)
- 3/16 143
- 3/23 135

AVERAGE: 130



as of 3/23/2014

Monthly Goal

\$ 22,480.

Received to Date

\$19,470

Difference

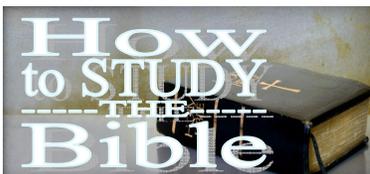
\$ - 3,010.

As of printing we have ONE more Sunday...we can do it.



Sundays - 10 AM

Come, for a self-led time to view the weekly teaching DVD on the Criswell Hall stage.



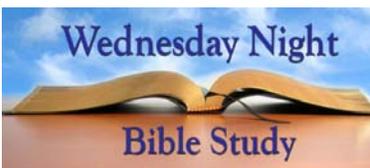
Sundays - 6 PM

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



Mondays - 7 PM

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



Adults - 5:45 PM

Kid's 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 The Story Bible, discussion, coffee, & friends!

Dates	Topics and Schedule
Wednesday, April 2	5:45 PM - "The Story" Dig Deeper Study Chapter 25: No Ordinary Man (Jesus) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Matthew 5—7,9& 14; Mark 4—6; Luke 10 &15; John 6
Sunday, April 6 Fifth Sunday of Lent	"The Story" Sermon Series Chapter 25: No Ordinary Man (Jesus) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Matthew 5—7,9& 14; Mark 4—6; Luke 10 &15; John 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 10-10:15 AM "The Story" Bible Study Cinema (CH Stage) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion
Wednesday, April 9	5:45 PM - "The Story" Dig Deeper Study Chapter 26: The Hour of Darkness (Jesus) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Matthew 26—27; Mark 14—15; Luke 22—23; John 13—14, 16—19
Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday	"The Story" Sermon Series Chapter 26: The Hour of Darkness (Jesus) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Matthew 26—27; Mark 14—15; Luke 22—23; John 13—14, 16—19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 10-10:15 AM "The Story" Bible Study Cinema (CH Stage) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion
Wednesday, April 16	5:45 PM - "The Story" Dig Deeper Study Chapter 27: The Resurrection (Jesus) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Matthew 27—28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 19—21
Sunday, April 20 Easter Sunday	"The Story" Sermon Series Chapter 27: The Resurrection (Jesus) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Matthew 27—28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 19—21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 10-10:15 AM "The Story" Bible Study Cinema (CH Stage) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion
Wednesday, April 23	5:45 PM - "The Story" Dig Deeper Study Chapter 28: New Beginnings (The Early Church) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Acts 1—10 & 12
Sunday, April 27	"The Story" Sermon Series Chapter 28: New Beginnings (The Early Church) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Acts 1—10 & 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Service • 10-10:15 AM "The Story" Bible Study Cinema (CH Stage) • 6 PM How to Study the Bible—Teaching & Discussion
Wednesday, April 30	5:45 PM - "The Story" Study Dig Deeper Chapter 29: Paul's Mission (The Early Church) <u>QR</u> in your Bible: Acts 13—14 & 16—20; Romans 1, 3—6, 8, 12, 15; I Corinthians 1, 3, 5—6, 10, 12—13, 15& 16; Galatians 1, 3, 5—6; I Thessalonians 1—5



Free Dinner for EVERYONE!

You can help make dinner, bring ingredients or just bring yourself! Donations are appreciated. We ask that you prayerfully consider giving to this ministry of our church, to our community.



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

UMM Board:

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



UMM TACO BUFFET APRIL 6th

The 3rd Annual Taco Salad Buffet will take place in Criswell Hall right after the 2nd Service on Sunday, April 6th from 11:45 AM to 1 PM. This festive luncheon will let you fill your crisp taco bowl with hamburger, lettuce, onions, cheese, olives, picante sauce, and sour cream. Make them how you like. Meal includes Taco Bowl, Rice, Re-fried Beans, Lemonade, Coffee, and a yummy cupcake for dessert.

Funds raised by the UMM from this activity go to Youth Scholarships, Kits for Kiddos, Camperships, Benevolence Fund, Peoples Kitchen, AG Camp, Sunday School Supplies and other UMM yearly projects.

COST: Adults—\$7 and Children (under 10 years old) - \$4. Line up your friends and neighbors and plan to attend this delicious fundraiser. **TICKETS GO ON SALE Sundays in Criswell Hall and at the door!**

CAMP ARROYO GRANDE REPORT TO UMM

The next meeting of the UMM will be **Saturday, April 19th at 8:30 AM** in Criswell Hall. The meeting will feature Debbie Talent, Camp Arroyo Grande Manager, who will update those attending on the past, present and future of the camp and its current activities.



Debbie and her husband Steve Talent have been Camp Manager's for many years and in the recent past have built two new cabins and brought the camp up to first class standards. The camp is under the management of the United Methodist Conference and is attended by hundreds of youth and families each year.

Tickets will be sold at the door for \$9 per person. Women are cordially invited to attend. Bring a neighbor or friend and enjoy the presentation.



The **Annual Carl Kliesch Memorial Golf Tournament**, which had been scheduled for the end of May, has been moved to **Saturday, June 7th** due to the availability of the golf course. Please see full plans for the tournament in the May Castanet and bulletin board in Criswell Hall. Bud Johnson and Mike Johnson are this years coordinators.



Easter Lilies have traditionally been a part of the celebration of Easter. For many, the beautiful trumpet-shaped white flowers symbolize purity, virtue, innocence, hope and life - the spiritual essence of Easter.

Often called the "white-robed apostles of hope," lilies were supposedly found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's agony. Tradition has it that the beautiful white lilies sprung up where drops of Christ's sweat fell to the ground in his final hours of sorrow and deep distress. Churches continue this tradition at Easter time by banking their altars and surrounding their crosses with masses of Easter Lilies, to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and hope of life everlasting.

You are invited to order a lily by completing the order forms found in the Sunday Bulletin or by calling the church office. By ordering a lily you will have two opportunities to give: 1) You can make a dedication to a loved one and take home the flower to enjoy, **or** 2) With your dedication, you can donate your flower to a church family member who is homebound or in a care-facility. These will be delivered on Palm Sunday. If you would like to help take the lilies to shut ins, please note that on your order form. The cost of this special flower and dedication is \$10 per flower. Dedications will be printed as written in the Palm Sunday bulletin.



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.”

Mary Hawkins, *President*; Betty Ashton, *Treasurer*; Patti Melsheimer, *Publicity*; Eva McClure, *Secretary*

United Methodist

Women’s Circles meet monthly.

You are encouraged to join one of these fellowship groups.

The **Esther Circle** will meet on **Thursday, April 10 at 12 noon** in the McMillen Room of the church. They are studying the book, “Just Choose Happiness.” Call Carla Gootee for more information

The **JOY Circle** will meet on **Tuesday, April 15 at 7 PM** the home of Betty Johnson. They are studying the book, “Strong Was Her Faith”, chapter 4, “Mary, the Extravagant.” Call Barbara Reineke for more information.

The **Mary Martha Circle** will meet on **Wednesday, April 23 at 9:30 AM**. They are also studying the book, “Strong Was Her Faith”, chapter 5, “The Mighty Widow.” Call Sally Weitkamp for additional information.

The **Sew n’ Sews**, a quilting and craft group meets every **Tuesday from 9 AM – 12 noon** in the McMillen Room. Helen Gugeler has more details.

Mark Your Calendars

- May 10** **Mother-Daughter Luncheon**
- June 14** **Spiritual Retreat**
“How Is It With Your Soul?” at home of Patti Melsheimer
- July 18 – 20** **Mission u 2014**
“Learning Together For the Transformation of the World”, Biola University, La Mirada, CA
- August 3** **Box Lunch Social - Fund Raiser**
- October 4** **An Issues Study** – “The Church and People with Disabilities”
- November** **A Virtual Tea**

ATTENTION!

Mothers, Daughters, BFF’s
(Best Friends Forever)
All are invited!

UMW Mother Daughter Luncheon and Silent Auction

Saturday, May 10 at 11:30 AM
First UMC of Arroyo Grande
in Criswell Hall

Program

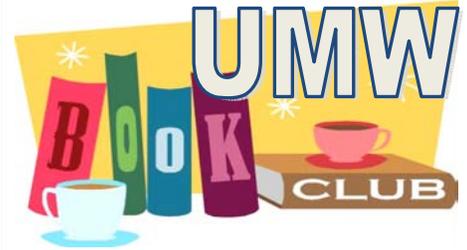
- 11:30 AM Visiting & Fellowship
- 12 noon Luncheon
- 12:45 PM Time to Browse & Bid on the Baskets
- 1:15 PM Entertainment
- 1:45 PM Basket Drawings

Luncheon Cost \$12. per person

The menu will include chicken breast in wine sauce, rice pilaf, green salad and rolls, as well as a surprise dessert!

There will be entertainment and an opportunity to bid on beautiful baskets of varying themes including a “JOY of Gardening” basket, a “Spa” basket, a “Bar-B-Que” basket and a “Night at the Movies” basket. Opportunity tickets for the baskets will be \$1 or 6 for \$5.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite family and friends and show them that they are loved and appreciated. Tickets for the luncheon will be available starting April 13th. (Deadline for reservations is May 4th.) Stop by the UMW table in Criswell Hall to purchase your tickets. Some of the baskets will also be on display. Proceeds will go to defray costs and to meet our pledge to support the Methodist Women’s Missions at home and around the world.



For 140 years, members of United Methodist Women and predecessor organizations have been involved in mission that includes prayer, study and action. The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action! As our Arroyo Grande group reads we are given opportunities to see how we can take action based on what we have learned from our readings.

During March, the members of the book club read the true story by Pegguelene Bartels and Eleanor Herman entitled “**King Peggy: An American Secretary, Her Royal Destiny and the Inspiring Story of How She Changed an African Village**”. This interesting story about one woman’s experiences returning to her country of birth, Ghana, to become the King of her region enabled our members to become acquainted with one country in Africa as well as to better understand the challenges of many in Africa to obtain access to clean water, medical care and education.

At our March meeting, we will be choosing between several titles for reading in April including “**Radio Shangri-La**, What I discovered on My Accidental Journey to the Happiest Kingdom on Earth”; “**A Twist of Faith**, An American Christian’s Quest to Help Orphans in Africa”; and “**Up**, A Mother and Daughter’s Peak-bagging Adventure”.

Contact Patti Melsheimer for more info.

Good Reasons For Attending Christian Retreats by Susan Coho, Adult Christian Ed. Director

We have a hundred reasons why we shouldn't go to Christian retreats. Some years the voices win out, and we stay home. Later, when we hear the glowing reports from others about how wonderful it was, we feel a pang of regret, but it doesn't last long. "Oh well," we say, "maybe next year." Other times we make the extra effort, and we're the ones sharing happy stories and telling how glad we are that we attended.

Why Go To A Christian Retreat?

1) **Because it's hard to hear God's voice above the noise of everyday life.** When is the last time you sat quietly before God without a To Do list, or family members pressing in on all sides? If you can't remember, you need to attend a retreat. "To retreat" means to leave our normally occupied positions and go to a place of safety, quiet, and seclusion. By going to a retreat, we physically remove ourselves from life's distractions, the call of chores, and the demands of people in order to make space for God. If you think you're less spiritual because you struggle to hear from God in your day to day life, be encouraged. Even Jesus recognized the value and need to get away. "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed" (Mark 1:35). Jesus retreated.

2) **Because we need each other.** Faith is contagious. Just like a virulent virus, it passes from person to person through close contact. Today's busy world allows little time for people to share faith stories, pray together, or meditate on biblical messages given. As we consider and apply God's Word together, we learn from each other's varied backgrounds, experiences, and insights. The better we understand God, the stronger our faith becomes. Then we can strengthen others. Hearing other people's testimo-

nies about God's faithfulness helps us realize that God will also take care of us. Hebrews 10:25 spotlights the value of mutual encouragement and warns us not to neglect corporate worship: "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another."

3) **Because meeting together spurs us on to "love and good deeds"** (Hebrews 10:24). "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." The Greek word for "spur on" is *paroxysmus*, which means to stir someone up. It has negative connotations, such as stirring up disagreement, but in this Hebrews passage, it underscores the fact that meeting together as believers helps us love and serve God and each other better.

4) **Standing side by side, together in Christ, and worshipping, praying, and learning about our precious Savior makes us stronger.** In joining a group that is singing praise songs to God, we experience a taste of what Heaven's going to be like when we're gathered around His throne. When sitting with other Christians, opening God's Word, the insights gained as we study together, adds weight and credence to biblical truth. When praying together, we share a common bond; we know we are not alone. Heavy burdens are lifted as we take them to our God. For these reasons, a Christian retreat can rejuvenate one spiritually, emotionally, and physically. People often state that they return home feeling refreshed, strengthened, inspired, and closer to the Lord and their sisters in Christ. Many people have said they never regretted attending a retreat, but have regretted not attending one. If you've never attended a retreat, or you haven't in a while, why not plan to attend one of the FUMCAG retreats offered this year? You'll be glad you did.



Your **\$40 retreat fee** includes 3 meals, optional overnight accommodation, 6 Interactive Study Sessions, a journal, and a keepsake bracelet. **Registration DEADLINE: April 5th.** Contact Linda Herber at lherber@aol.com for information or call the church office at (805) 481-2692.

Do you want to get-a-way?

Consider these upcoming opportunities.

A Christian Education Sponsored Women's Retreat at a beautiful Arroyo Grande Mesa location.

Beginning Friday evening, April 11th at 5 PM and ending Saturday afternoon, April 12th at 4 PM.

UMW is also planning a "stay"-cation and Spiritual Retreat on June 14! More news as it develops.

COMMunications COMMittee

When the Church Council had their brainstorming meeting last month, several raised concerns around how we communicate with the congregation and the community. It is the job of the Communications Committee to help you all know how I believe there are several ways the WE CAN ALL be part of the solution.

First, when you receive your newsletter, note the **deadline** on the calendar for the next issue. This has been a very large issue for the church office. It puts the proofing, printing, mailing, as well as, the distribution to you the congregation at a great disadvantage.

Secondly, please plan ahead if you have information you want to share with the congregation or community in the next issue. The office receives our information in a variety of ways....email, hard copy-typed or hand written, faxed, or by mail. Any issues/articles not from the publicity, chairs or committees of this church will need to be reviewed by the Communications Committee for approval.

If we make an effort to be timely in getting the information to the office, then it can be included for sharing with the congregation and community. Also by being timely, the newsletter can be formatted sooner giving the Communications Committee opportunity to proof more adequately. By waiting until the last minute, we are in jeopardy of major items being excluded from the newsletter. We are certain that this will make the process go more smoothly. If you are going to be delayed, please let the office know so space can be allowed—this does mean that items cannot be accepted after the proofing has been done.

Remember that we do have an **online calendar that is updated weekly** with all event forms that are turned into the office and as items come from the Trustees approval. Please be sure to check your events regularly to be sure something was not missed or is incorrect. So that is all to say, NO Event Form, means NO Trustee approval, which then means the office has NO information, all resulting in NO event on the calendar.

Timeliness is important for the weekly bulletin as well. Be sure your dates are on the church calendar so they can be included. You are free to write a short blurb and e-mail it to the office. If the office doesn't have the correct information, it makes it difficult to have them in print for us. Please do not assume that the office has your event information.

MOST IMPORTANT...is for all of us to read the publications so we aren't saying, "I didn't know anything about - 'whatever it is.'" We want to be good stewards of our resources and time. SO please make the work that people put into ALL publications a usable resource for you.

Then prayerfully consider being a part of the Communications Committee and help with this part of our ministry.



Five Cities Christian Women Food Pantry has had the United Methodist Churches involved and supportive for many, many years.

One of the founding members 40 years ago was Edna Miller. Current members active with the group are Virginia Mothes (president), Patti Mel-sheimer (does afternoon scheduling), Bennie Duffin (statistics). Many other volunteers whose names you may recognize are: Jim Alquist, Marian Balster, Diane Henderson, and Jeri Roseboro (SLO UMC), Peg Gallop, and Tom Egan (a notable and honorary FCCW).

As of the end of February this year, 1227 families consisting of 2,779 adults and 1,399 children have been served totaling 4,178 people.

If you would like to help out please contact any of the above persons. To donate non-perishable food items, please bring them to the church and place them in the labeled wicker basket. We also get requests for pet food and toilet paper.

Thanks again to you all! Bennie Duffin



Come on in to the Library and meet our Librarian, Jan Herber.

She is a retired school librarian and has been diligently working to update the library booking catalog, tagging and making more room for incoming books. Any books not taken are being donated to the AAUW book sale.

We have books that will add to your study of *"The Story"* as well as DVDS and Videos for your enjoyment. **Come in and check them out!**



Thanks to all who participated in helping send our kids to camp with the “Spud”-tacular. We will let you know next month just how much your generosity helped us raise for the camperships.

In His Service—Mike & Linda

**youth
group**
SCHEDULE

Sunday Kick Back - 10:30 AM
Wednesday Youth Group - 7 PM
Join these 6th-12th
grade teens living for Christ.



Are YOU going to camp???

Our camps are week long, overnight, Christian based camps where your child will engage in worship, small group activities, large group activities and games. They could also participate in activities, such as swimming, archery, ropes courses and many, many more.

At summer camp, your child will grow in their faith, learn leadership skills, grow their self-esteem, develop inter-personal skills with peers and adults, make life-long friendships and have fun.

New for 2014: Some of our camps will be ending on Friday evening. Please note the dates for your camp carefully. Parents will be invited to come a little early on Friday, enjoy dinner and be a part of the closing gathering. Details on times and events will be sent out as the time for camp draws near.

Camp Rates & Dates

Youth: \$395.

Younger Elementary: \$200.

\$25. Deposit is required with registration.

Younger Elementary : August 3-6, 2014

Elementary Camp: August 3-8, 2014

Junior High Camp: July 13-19, 2014

Senior High Camp: July 6-12, 2014

Donate to the Cal-Pac Camps Campership Fund and help send more kids to camp.

Gifts made direct to our church camp fund via the church office.

For more information on Cal-Pac Camps visit the website at calpaccamps.org



I ♥ CAMP



June 23—27, 2014 Experiencing God's Word

At **Weird Animals** Vacation Bible School, kids experience God's Word in surprising and unforgettable ways! Each day, leaders reinforce one simple Bible truth—which makes it easy for kids to remember and apply to real life!

Day 1

- **Bible Verse:** Matthew 28:20

“I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Day 2

- **Bible Verse:** Ephesians 2:10

“For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus.”

Day 3

- **Bible Verse:** Luke 6:31

“Do unto others as you would like them to do to you.”

Day 4

- **Bible Verse:** I John 4:10

“God...loved us and sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.”

Day 5

- **Bible Verse:** Matthew 14:27

“Don't be afraid...take courage. I am here!”

Next month, we will share the characters and the Bible story they tell. Join us!



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) Native American Sunday, 2) Lenten Discipline, 3) Laptop needs for Haiti, 4) New Mission Projects to be planned, 5) Special Giving totals for 2014.

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE..IN ACTION

1) NATIVE AMERICAN SUNDAY

Since this special offering comes on **May 4**, the first **Sunday in May**, I wanted to give you a heads up for those who like to plan ahead. The special day reminds United Methodists of the gifts and contributions of Native Americans to our society. The offering supports Native American outreach within U.S. annual conferences and provides seminary scholarships for Native Americans.

2) LENTEN DISCIPLINE

How are you doing with your Lenten Disciplines? I hope you are finding this a meaningful time to examine your life and to draw closer to God. Lent is a season to prepare our hearts for celebrating Easter. Through the centuries, common Lenten disciplines have included:

- **Fasting:** Denying oneself food and other habits or restricting the amount consumed.
- **Abstinence:** Denying oneself specific types of food/other habits during Lent.
- **Almsgiving :** Giving money sacrificially. Choose a ministry that could benefit from financial assistance. Some possibilities:
 - * **No More Malaria** through UMCOR
 - * Our local ministries: 5 Cities Christian Women, People's Kitchen, UMC of AG Emergency Food Pantry.
 - * Youth/Kids Camp Fund

3) LAPTOP NEEDS FOR HAITI STUDENTS

Students in Haiti seeking to further their education are in need of laptops to help them with their studies. Do you have one that you are no longer using? We can get it refurbished and loaded with the programs they need. If so please speak to me or if you just want to fund one, that would be all right also.

4) NEW MISSION PROJECTS TO BE PLANNED.

Having completed the well project, the Mission Team is exploring new mission projects to challenge

us. We welcome your ideas!

5) SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2014

Special Giving Chart 2014	
Human Relations Sunday	371.00
People's Kitchen Food	159.17
People's Kitchen Misc.	881.30
South County Food Bank	159.58
Wells for Africa	150.00
TOTAL	1,721.05

Many hands can do many things!



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

Celebrate how we have begun the year in our Second Mile giving which provides for ministries around the world through our connection of the United Methodist Church.



UMC of AG's

People's Kitchen Team

serves meals to our community on the **1st & 3rd Thursday of each month**. The team can always use your help including the "prep-day" in the kitchen on the **Wednesdays prior** to that.

Always In Need of: Clothes (**CLEAN/SEASON APPROPRIATE**), travel-sized toiletries, bedding/blankets/sleeping bags, towels, oral hygiene supplies, and new socks. People are needed to help assemble lunch bags on the Wednesday before. **Contact the Ashtons for details.**

Year-To-Date 2014

meals served: 737 meals served

socks distributed: 9,918 pairs.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>APRIL</p>		<p>1 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 7 PM Trustees</p>	<p>2 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM Senior Health Screening (N/L) 9 AM People's Kitchen Team Prep (CH/K) 1 PM Alzheimer's Association - Savvy Care Givers Workshop (CH) 5 PM Fellowship Dinner (CH) The Story Chapter 25 6 PM Adult Study 6 PM Kids Night Out * 6:30 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>3 AG UM CC CLOSED for Staff Development (off-site) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen - leave to serve 5 PM Grande Ringers (handbell Room)</p>	<p>4 AG UM CC CLOSED for Staff Development (off-site) 8:30 AM Bible Study: The Story Chapter 25 (L)</p>	<p>5 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team (S)</p>
<p>6 <u>Coffee Hour:</u> Congregational Care The Story—Chapter 25 8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10 AM "Story" Cinema CH Stage 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 11:45 AM UMM Taco Bar Lunch 12 PM Christian Ed. Team (MMR) 3 PM SLO County Band (S) 6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>7 <u>Pastor's Day off</u> 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 1 PM - 3 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Rec. Quilting Class (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>8 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10:30 AM Communications Committee 5 PM Grande Ringers (115) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 6 PM AG MS Support (MMR)</p>	<p>9 9 AM Church Work Day 12:30 PM Alzheimer's Association Care Giver Support Group (MMR) 5 PM Fellowship Dinner (CH) The Story Chapter 26 6 PM Adult: 6 PM Kids Night Out * 6:30 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>10 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 12 PM Esther Circle (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers (handbell Room) 6:30 PM AG UM Children's Center Pillow Concert with Ivan Ulz (CH) 7 PM AG UM CC Open House 7 PM Worship Team (MMR)</p>	<p>11 8:30 AM Bible Study: The Story Chapter 26 (L)</p>  <p>where women delight in God's grace Women's Retreat—"Cafe Chocolat" 4/11 at 5 PM until 4/12 at 4 PM (over-night optional) At home of Kathleen Ballagh</p>	<p>12 11 AM Parking Lot Clothing Giveaway 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>13 <u>Coffee Hour:</u> Mission Team  PALM SUNDAY The Story—Chapter 26 8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10 AM "Story" Cinema CH Stage 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>14 <u>Pastor's Day off</u> 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 12 PM Central Coast Hospice Bereavement Support (MMR) 1 PM - 3 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Rec. Quilting Class (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>15 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 10 AM Congregational Care Team (L) 1:30 PM Preschool Board - open session (MMR) 2 PM Endowment Board (L) 2:30 PM Preschool Board - closed session (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 7 PM JOY Circle (home of a member)</p>	<p>16 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM People's Kitchen Prep-Day (CH/K) 12 PM AG UM Children's Center CLOSED 12 PM AG UM CC Heritage Potluck (CH) 5 PM Fellowship Dinner (CH) The Story Chapter 27 6 PM Adult: 6 PM Kids Night Out * 6:30 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>17  Maundy Thursday 9 AM AG UM CC CLOSED for Staff Development (MMR) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 11:30 AM People's Kitchen (handbell Room) Maundy Thursday Service Of Quiet Holy Communion casual and self led from 6:30 PM—7:30 PM Come anytime!</p>	<p>18  Good Friday AG UM CC CLOSED NEWSLETTER DEADLINE! 8:30 AM Bible Study: The Story Chapter 27 (L) 12 PM Alzheimer's Support Group for Adult Children of Parents (MMR) 3 PM Good Friday Ecumenical Service at St. Patrick's 7 PM Good Friday Worship Services with GB Presbyterian Church - "The Requiem" (at GB Pres. Church)</p>	<p>19 8:30 AM UMM Breakfast - Guest Debbie Talant -Camp AG "Past/Present/Future" 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team (S)</p>
<p>20  He is Risen! EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH Resurrection Sunday The Story—Chapter 27 8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10 AM "Story" Cinema CH Stage 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>21 <u>Pastor's Day off</u> 9:45 AM - 2 PM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program (211) 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 1 PM - 3 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Rec. Quilting Class (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>22 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L)</p>	<p>23 Administrative Professionals Day 9 AM Church Work Day 9:30 AM Mary-Martha (MMR) 5 PM Fellowship Dinner (CH) The Story Chapter 28 6 PM Adult: 6 PM Kids Night Out * 6:30 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	<p>24 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers (handbell Room) 6:30 PM Church Council (MMRP)</p>	<p>25 8:30 AM Bible Study: The Story Chapter 28 (L) 11 AM UMW Book Club (MMR)</p>	<p>26 12:30 PM Dr. Chess (211)</p>
<p>27 Children's Center Sunday Art Show and Tri-Tip BBQ Lunch (CH) The Story—Chapter 28 8:30 AM Casual Contemporary Service 10 AM "Story" Cinema CH Stage 10:30 AM Traditional Service 10:30 AM Youth Group(215) 6 PM How to Study the Bible (MMR)</p>	<p>28 <u>Pastor's Day off</u> 9:45 AM - 2 PM Dr. Chess Home-school Enrichment Program (211) 11 AM Angularis Academy (CH) 1 PM - 3 PM UMC of AG Food Pantry (CH) 6 PM AG Rec. Quilting Class (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>29 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers (handbell Room) 5 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L)</p>	<p>30 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM People's Kitchen Team Prep (CH/K) 5 PM Fellowship Dinner (CH) The Story Chapter 29 6 PM Adult: 6 PM Kids Night Out 7 PM Chancel Choir (S) 7 PM UM Youth Group (215)</p>	 <p>Newsletter DEADLINE April 18 at noon</p>	<p>Important REMINDERS for May 5/3 North District Training Event (Camarillo UMC) <i>open to ALL!</i> 5/12 UMW Mother-Daughter Luncheon & Silent Auction (A UMW Missions Fund-raiser)</p>	 <p>ELF Scholarship Deadline May 15 Applications available online and in the office.</p>

Meet Our **CHURCH STAFF**

Church Office: (805) 481-2692
E-mail: fumcag@scbglobal.net
Senior Pastor:
 Rev. David M. Burgeson
Deaconess/Missionary (retired):
 Judy Atwood, Lay Leader
Office Administrator:
 Sarah Burgeson
Bookkeeper: Victoria Gandy
Website Manager: open
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
Director: Madrigal Quaglino
E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net
Office: (805) 481-2223



Trustee Tidbits

Tom Egan, chair

From MARCH 4, 2014

- Per the budget we stand at 109%. Of the areas we are over budget, I can control only one of them. At the end of January we lost \$1,200 on our Parsonage Fund. We stood at \$143,780. But, at the end of February we gained \$6,000 and stand at \$149,826.
- A couple of weeks ago ,People's Kitchen gave out clothes to the needy. A lot of people came but we still have a lot of clothes. So, they will do it again.
- Security is not lost but close to it. I will probably mention this each month until all realize that security falls on each and everyone of us.
- Ted Sloan said that in the last 2 or 3 years, LED lights have come a long way. They are even over 100 watts. He will get me a price and availability for the 6 in the sanctuary and then I'll see if our budget can handle this.
- The bus is insured with tags, and about to be inspected engine wise. We have discussed taking out 4 or 5 seats so it will carry only 15 passengers. That way anyone with a valid drivers license can drive the bus. Stay tuned.
- It will take 1 or 2 more months to see if the reduction in water usage has affected our water bill.

More next month!

Thanks - Tom Egan, chair



- | | |
|------------------|------|
| Jack Cuddy | 4/1 |
| Amber Burgeson | 4/5 |
| Patti Melsheimer | 4/6 |
| Laurie Moore | 4/6 |
| Ryan Bailey | 4/7 |
| Pam Bauske | 4/7 |
| Grant Cuddy | 4/8 |
| Sadie Barber | 4/9 |
| Don Gugeler | 4/11 |
| Ryan Odom | 4/24 |
| Lea Ann Collagan | 4/25 |



Did we miss a birthday?

Contact our church office...we need you to fill out an information form for you and your family. Please contact us if your birthdate has been printed incorrectly!



Chair: open position
Members At Large:
 Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Pastor David Burgeson, Sarah Burgeson, Susan Coho, Virginia Mothes, and Jerry Smith.
Layout Editor: Sarah Burgeson
Proofing Team: David Beaman, Judy Atwood and Virginia Mothes.
Other contributors:
 ▪ Gary Hughes, select photos
 ▪ Val McClure, varied features
 ▪ Varied Teams/Committees
Deadline: Noon on April 18th.
PLEASE NOTE: Layout Editor reserves the right to cut and edit articles to meet space limitations.

**NEWS
TODAY
WORKS**

In 33 AD, Jesus rose from the dead on the Jewish Feast of First Fruits. "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep." 1 Cor 15:20

In 2014, the days and dates of the Jewish month of Nisan and the Roman month of April will match exactly AND all Christians will celebrate Easter on the same day.

Nisan 5775 (Hebrew)								April 2014 (Roman)							
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	1	2	3		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	

In the past century, the days and dates of Nisan and April matched only four times (1919, 1971, 1976, 1995) BUT in NONE of these years did the Western and Orthodox Easter dates coincide.

In 2014 AD, Jews and Christians around the world will once again celebrate the Feast of First Fruits on the exact same day.

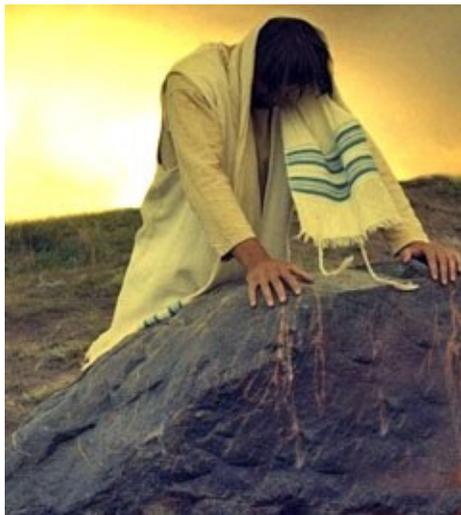
Hebrew / Roman calendar @ <http://www.cgsf.org/dbeattie/calendar/?roman=2013>
 Orthodox Easter dates @ <http://www.smart.net/~mmontes/OrthEasttbl.html>
 Western Easter dates @ <http://www.lexorandi.org/easter-date.html>



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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Visit us on the web at worshipweekly.com



IN THIS ISSUE

COVER STORIES: Holy Week Events

Shepherd's Notes/Scripture	2
Adult Christian Ed. Calendar	3
UM Men's News & News from Congregational Care Team	4
UM Women's News	5
Christian REtreats	6
Communications & More	7
Youth/Kids, Camp & VBS	8
Mission Team News	9
Calendar	10
Trustees & Birthdays	11

INSERT:
Children's Center Chronicle

Selected Pieces from John Rutter's

Requiem

Good Friday—18 April 2014 at 7 PM

Grover Beach Presbyterian Church

1830 Farroll Road
Grover Beach, CA 93433

Combined Choirs:

Grover Beach Presbyterian

First United Methodist Church
of Arroyo Grande

With the Tolosa Strings

Pastor Andy Rock

Pastor David Burgeson

***Details on cover*