

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



Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande MARCH 2016



**Palm Sunday
March 20, 2016**

8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Worship

POWERFULLY LONELY, YET NEVER ALONE

Rev. Mary Birgelaitis, preaching

In recent years, the Sunday before Easter has been celebrated as Palm/Passion Sunday in tandem. You can read the history of this pattern at

umcworship.blogspot.com.

This year we will usher in Holy Week with a worship celebration of Palm Sunday by itself. Therefore, it is particularly important to also attend mid-week for the Maundy Thursday service and/or the Ecumenical Good Friday service so that you may hear the passion narrative and walk with Jesus through the events that transpired between the “Hosanna” of Palm Sunday and the “Alleluias” of the Easter dawn.

Contemporary worship at 8:30 a.m., traditional worship at 10:30 a.m., followed by a SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT at 11:45 a.m. with basket decorating, making an Easter card and having a snack.



Maundy Thursday

**Maundy Thursday
March 24, 2016**

6:00 p.m. Worship
The Last Supper and
Ritual of Tenebrae

We offer a simple celebration of Holy Communion celebrating The Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples followed by a reading of the Passion Narrative from the gospel including the traditional extinguishing of candles as we listen to the story of Jesus entering the darkness of betrayal, violence and crucifixion.

ECUMENICAL

**Good Friday Service
March 25, 2016**

3:00 p.m.

St. Patrick’s Catholic Church



Arroyo Grande clergy have joined together to plan this ecumenical Good Friday worship opportunity that will take place at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church as together we remember the crucifixion of Jesus. A procession with the cross to the church will precede the service for those wishing to participate.



**Easter Sunday
March 27, 2016**

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship

AND GOD SAID, “YES!”
Rev. Mary Birgelaitis, preaching





MUSINGS...

The violence of shooters and shooting became personal this week as I read the internet news and saw listed among the victims of the Kalamazoo shooting the name of someone I knew 38 years ago when she was a student at Western Michigan University. Bright, energetic, and kind way back then. And now? ---a seasoned, compassionate Christian woman whose life was taken from her by an uber driver on a shooting spree. Tragic, senseless, and violent. Gone, but not to be forgotten. What a waste---her death I mean, but not her life! Her impress will continue to inspire and to ignite a desire for goodness and truth because she lived and lived well.

During the Lenten season we contemplate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the promise it holds for us that we, too, will be resurrected to new life beyond the grave. Even while typing those words I get chills, sensing Mary Jo's near presence. Like Jesus, she has gone before us. Yes, she is already there, and the loving links she shared with others during her earth-journey are not broken. "**Love one another,**" said Jesus, and God the Father honors the love-links created when we do. Gone, but not forgotten. Transformed, yet still connected by tender ties of love and affection.

I have pictures of Mary Jo at 22 along with other students. She is in bib overalls stomping down leaves in a dumpster so we could keep the Wesley Foundation premises clean and clear as fall colors turned to brown and trees let go of leaves for the winter. I have pictures of her sitting on a wall acting goofy and having fun with quirky friends putting a Frisbee over her head as if it were a halo! Ordinary memories of an extraordinary girl long ago.

What I celebrate as I remember Mary Jo is the loving community of the Wesley Foundation where the spiritual lives of students were nourished and nurtured, where friendships were formed that made a wonderful difference and where young people made the transition into adulthood becoming creative, compassionate, caring servants of the Lord Jesus Christ. Goodness was born in that student community in Kalamazoo.

And that same kind of community is what we celebrate here. What we do as a congregation that gathers to worship, to pray and to praise God is transformative. We, too, are in transition and are always becoming more creative, more compassionate and more caring servants of the Lord Jesus Christ. So, celebrate who we are together as we love and serve Jesus the Christ! This journey makes a difference. There are eternal consequences to the love we share and the service we live out.

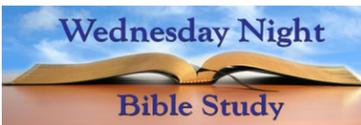
God bless you this Lenten season,

Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

Rev. Mary Birgelaitis



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



Adult Bible Study at 5:45 PM
FREE Fellowship Meal at 5 PM



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



MARCH LITURGISTS

March 6
 8:30 a.m. — *Joe Brown*
 10:30 a.m. — *Judy Leonard*

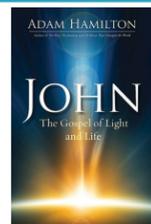
March 13
 8:30 a.m. — *Sharon Roemer*
 10:30 a.m. — *Alice Addison*

March 20
 8:30 a.m. — *Larry Baughman*
 10:30 a.m. — *David Beaman*

March 27
 8:30 a.m. — *Judy Atwood*
 10:30 a.m. — *David Beaman*



Dates	Topics and Schedule
Wednesday, March 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Adult Lenten Study JOHN: The Gospel of Light and Life
Sunday, March 6 Fourth Sunday in Lent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis—BURY THE HATCHET 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
Wednesday, March 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Adult Lenten Study JOHN: The Gospel of Light and Life
Sunday, March 13 Fifth Sunday in Lent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis—SENSELESS ACTS OF BEAUTY Philippians 3:7-16, John 12:1-8
Wednesday, March 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM following 5:00 PM Free Fellowship Meal Visit from Missionary, John Elmore
Sunday, March 20 Palm Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis—POWERFULLY LONELY, YET NEVER ALONE Philippians 2:5-11, Mark 11:1-11
Wednesday, March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Adult Lenten Study JOHN: The Gospel of Light and Life
Sunday, March 27 Easter Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis —AND GOD SAID, "YES!" Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-8
Wednesday, March 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Adult Lenten Study JOHN: The Gospel of Light and Life



Wednesday Lenten Study Schedule
Criswell Hall
5:45 pm

Following Free Fellowship Meal

JOHN-The Gospel of Light and Life

by Adam Hamilton

March 2 *The "I AM" Sayings of Jesus*
 March 9 *The Farewell Discourse*
 March 16 Missionary Visit → see notice
 March 23 *The Arrest, Trial, and Crucifixion of the King*
 March 30 *Eternal Life*

MISSIONARY VISIT
WEDNESDAY
MARCH 16
5:45 PM



John H. Elmore is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church assigned to the Methodist Church of Chile as mission volunteer coordinator.

He and his wife, Maria Cristina Hurtado, are based in Angol in southern Chile, where he is affiliated with the Methodist Agricultural School for Mapuche Indians.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND FOLLOWING THE POTLUCK AT 5 PM!



Val McClure, *publicity*

SWEETHEART BREAKFAST A SUCCESS

The Annual UMM Sweetheart Breakfast was a great fun-filled success with about 65 Church members and friends attending. Love Songs, with outstanding vocals by Dave Bauer, were accompanied by Dennis Eiler on the piano. Dennis also played some great music during the event. Mike Clark and Chloe Keith sang "Cowboy Love Songs", which were outstanding. Don and Helen Gugeler were named the "Sweethearts of the Year" and told of their early courting experiences. Tina Moore produced a great French toast and sausage breakfast that was enjoyed by all. The ladies attending got a beautiful long stem rose for their attendance. If you missed this special event, put it on your calendar for February 14, 2017.

DON AND HELEN GUGELER



**"SWEETHEARTS OF THE YEAR"
AT THE UMM ANNUAL
SWEETHEART BREAKFAST ON
FEBRUARY 13, 2016**

MARCH 19th MEETING TO FEATURE DISTRICT CANDIDATE

Mike Carpenter, now serving on the SLO City Council and candidate for our 3rd District Representative on the Board of Supervisors will be the keynote speaker for our next breakfast meeting at Coco's Restaurant. The meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. and order off the menu. Mr. Carpenter has some great ideas for our own area and will have a question and answer time after his remarks.

APRIL IS THE ANNUAL TACO BUFFET

Olé Amigos! - It's almost time for the Annual Taco Buffet, scheduled for Sunday, April 17th from 11:45-1:00pm. Get your Sombreros on, and let's make this a great event!



MAY 20th IS FIELD TRIP TIME



On Friday, May 20th the field trip adventure will take UMM to Camp San Luis Obispo, the National Guard Training Camp. Trip will be made in a Ride-On Bus at no charge to the UMM members. Tour of the base includes a delicious buffet style lunch at a \$7.50 cost. Lunch will be served at the main one million dollar dining hall on base. Tour of the entire base, including the shooting range and other training facilities, will be experienced. Don't miss this one; put Friday, May 20th on your calendar. More details in the May CAST-A-NET and church Sunday bulletins.



**United
Methodist
Women**

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

in the global ministries of the church."

Sally Weitkamp, Publicity

"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

Dear United Methodist Women and Ladies of the Congregation,

We are inviting you to join us for a **Disabilities Workshop** being held at our church on **SATURDAY, March 12, 2016 from 9 AM till 3 PM** with 8:30 registration, refreshments and fellowship. One of our studies for United

Methodists this year is **"People with Disabilities"** and we are anxious to put the study into action in our church. We will have speakers experienced in their fields on the following subjects:

Hearing Disabilities

Vision Disabilities

Autism & Down's Syndrome

Hand Therapy

Mobility

Karen Scott

Dr. James Weitkamp

Rebecca Wilber

Lucy Jacob

Sarah Willet

Audiologist

Optometrist

Mother of an autistic child

Occupational Therapist, CHT

Physical Therapist

We will have discussions (we have invited UMW ladies from all the Methodist Churches in the North District) on ways of implementing the ideas our speakers have suggested. The more we understand about these difficulties that handicapped individuals face, the more we can make changes and implement ways to make our church more



"user friendly". We know in our own congregation we have members who have difficulty with hearing, vision, and mobility. We love them! And we want them to have the full worship experience that other enjoy. So, Ladies of the Church, it is "time to take action". We have sign up

sheets in Criswell Hall and the Church Office, or you may call Mary Hawkins to make a reservation .

Please join us for this very important workshop.



SUPER CHILI BOWL SUNDAY!

Thank you to all the UMW ladies and Larry Baughman who made Chili and Corn Bread, and to all who purchased our chili.

We made \$500 for our charities.

Thank you so much for supporting us!



Thank You



MALALA: THE GIRL WHO REFUSED TO BE SILENCED

You have probably heard about Malala, the Pakistani girl who was attacked by the Taliban. Why? Because she had the courage to speak out about her right to get an education. Although she was only 16 years old at the time, she was unafraid of possible death. Instead she endured the Taliban's cruel attacks and now serves as a role model for women around the world.

We will follow her extraordinary journey from the valleys of Pakistan to her presence in the United Nations halls in our March book selection, *I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban.* This fascinating memoir should give us many topics for discussion. Everyone is welcome to join the UMW Book Club meeting on Friday, March 25th at 11 A.M. in the McMillen Room.

If you need a copy of the book, talk to Patti Melsheimer.

Submitted by Judy Leonard

**PAT AND LARRY WIEMERS—FAITHFUL FUMCAG
CHURCH MEMBERS FOR 53 YEARS**

Driving to their “back country home” was an interesting excursion, and taking in the expansive and high level view to the south was breathtaking. One can see the ocean, beach and mist stretching for many miles. It is the perfect spot to watch missile launches from Vandenberg AFB, para-gliders aloft, and unceasing waves rolling ashore. A perfect view of God’s creation at work!

Larry was born in Lincoln, Nebraska. His father began his career in education in a one room school but was soon recruited to work for the Nebraska State Dept. of Education. A few years later the family moved to Houston, TX. His dad decided to pursue a Master’s degree and a Ph.D. so the family moved to California, and with degrees in hand he began his life as a school administrator. Consequently, Larry attended a number of schools along the way.

It was in Oxnard where Larry first met Pat, his future wife, when they were 5th grade Sunday School classmates. They attended the same junior high school in Oxnard until Pat moved to Ridgecrest, CA, the town outside the military base of China Lake Naval Weapons Center. Four years later Larry’s family moved to Trona, near Death Valley (a mere 26 miles from Ridgecrest).

Larry excelled in high school sports. Although he was offered an athletic scholarship at UCR, he chose to attend Cal Poly, SLO. He became a student of Industrial Technology and a Resident Supervisor, and gave the young residents advice about proper behavior and deportment. He is forever grateful to his father who sent him DAILY letters of encouragement and support during his college years.

After graduation Larry became a teacher at Crown Hill school and taught 9th grade shop classes. Not long after he started his pursuit into administration roles by obtaining the required credentials. He became a counselor at Arroyo Grande High School and then moved to the District Level and was responsible for the Regional Occupational Program, vocational education, Agriculture programs, and “other duties as assigned” which translated into administrator of expulsions districtwide and also the district music program. He was a coach for basketball and tennis and taught driver training, too. He wore many hats during his career which he traded in for a farm hat. Most folks at church know him as “THE PIG FARMER”.

Pat was born in Jacksonville, FL. When her father



contracted tuberculosis and was sent to a veteran’s hospital in California, the family followed. After her father was released from the hospital, the family moved several times. Luckily they went to Oxnard and met the Wiemers family at church. Ridgecrest was next because her father needed the dry climate. Her father’s work on the base was classified TOP SECRET and it was only after it was declassified many years later that the family learned of the “projects” he worked on. So Pat, as well as Larry, lived many places and attended a lot of schools. Pat was very active in high school and was awarded an academic scholarship to UC. Santa Barbara, where she studied Speech Pathology. She was also a Resident Assistant. When the “dorm Mother” left, Pat became Head Resident. With Pat and Larry serving responsible positions, Larry organized bus trips to bring full loads of male students from Cal Poly to UCSB for Dance Get Together Outings. The program was a huge success. (Co-ed dorms did not exist back then.)

After graduation, Pat filled the need for Speech Pathology in the schools through the SLO County Office of Education. She worked as an itinerant speech and language therapist, a special education administrator, a psychometrist, and a special day class teacher for communicatively handicapped children. After retiring from a 36 year career, she volunteered her services for friends and others needing speech/language therapy. Now she volunteers in several organizations in South County.

Larry and Pat dated in college, were married in 1962, moved to Grover City in 1963, and joined the church in 1964 when Criswell Hall was the sanctuary. They have always considered themselves a “team”, so they went back to school together for Master’s degrees and more credentials, purchased their beautiful 10 acre home site in 1970, built their house together, and started “farming” together. They have many stories to tell. Meanwhile they raised three daughters. Shelli and Sherri are identical twins. Larry and Pat readily admit they had some trouble keeping the identical twins correctly identified as they grew up—but so did their teachers and friends. The twins graduated with degrees from

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**Chair, Paul Holden***February 2016—The Latest from the Trustees*

- Trustees were pleased to have an opportunity to communicate in person at the Trustees meeting with Mary Thronson, Chair of the Board for the Children's Center, and for both Trustees and Preschool Board to communicate concerns and coordinate in ways that strengthen the church and Children's Center programs. With regular turnover in Trustees membership and changes in pastoral leadership over time it remains important to update current players on the relationship and agreements originally set in place at the creation of the Children's Center regarding facility use, utilities, repairs, etc., in order that we may work well together. Mary Thronson is to provide Trustees with a copy of the Center's current by-laws and to contact Rev. Underwood who was the founding pastor who can provide useful information helpful to us.
- Mike Johnson has been working on securing bids for the replacement of the Children Center's central heating unit. The bids are coming in high at \$22,000+. Paul Holden will look to secure one more bid before we decide whom we shall use.
- Paul Holden has begun working on obtaining quotes for installing a solar electric power solution for the Church in hopes of reducing or eliminating the current \$800+ electric bill.
- Buffy Prestemon is working on quotes for replacing the entry way mats.
- Buffy also obtained 'No Smoking' signs and Paul will install them soon.
- Paul is working on obtaining signed Church Facility Use agreements with all parties using the Church on a recurring basis. It looks promising that a little income will be generated from this effort as well as current contact information.
- Paul reviewed for the Trustees the current liability insurance coverage that the Church has through the District's plan. We have found out that we have very adequate coverage, and we had to laugh when we found we have \$25,000,000 in coverage for water sprinkler systems.

WIEMERS, continued

Stanford University. Pam, the third child, has a degree from CAL Berkeley and was an exchange student in Japan and Germany. Having moved a lot as children, the Wiemers decided to stay put so all the girls went K-12 in Lucia Mar District. The daughters have a total of nine children, seven girls and two boys, making for lots of enjoyment for Pat and Larry.

Larry and Pat are tireless and contributing members occupied with the operation and functions of our church. They make a point of personally greeting each person attending on Sundays. They enjoy going to first service, but they attend second service so regularly that other members recognize their absence with genuine concern. Their participation in church activities is very impressive. Their devotion represents a GOAL that the rest of us can use as a MODEL to aspire to.

TOGETHER they chaired the year-long celebration of our 125th anniversary. Looking back, they say that was the best time ever.

Pat taught Sunday School, served on Pastor Parish Committee, Board of Trustees Red Umbrella Committee, Pre-School Board, and Caring Congregation Committee. She makes casseroles for People's Kitchen, and frequently works in the kitchen. Larry served on the Board of Trustees, Endowment Board, and People's Kitchen. He researched memorials and obtained Plaques for the Bible, the pit BBQ, and the Sign Board in front of Church. He worked extensively on the remodeling project for Pre-School classrooms. He also worked on the major landscape changes and pruned the trees for many years.

David E. Beaman 2/24/2016



Greetings,

As we enter into the Lenten season, we continue our studies about Jesus with our Sunday school lessons.

Easter is fast approaching, along with spring time, a time of renewal.

Although Easter is a somber time, it is also a joyful time for Christians. It is our most holy of times. Children should feel the joy along with the reverence of this Holy time. We look forward to our Easter egg hunt this month, as well as our stories about Jesus and why he came to be with us.

Children will learn that Jesus wants us to be servants to one another when they hear the story of how Jesus washed the disciples' feet. Passover Seder will be explored as well, as children learn about Jewish traditions, and how some of these ancient customs are still a part of our practice.

As we enter Holy week, with the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem, children will understand why we call this day, Palm Sunday. The Resurrection story will be emphasized throughout this month.



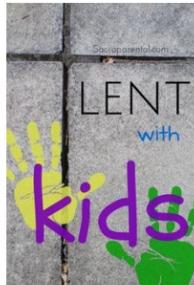
We hope you have a blessed and renewing Easter time, remembering the lessons Jesus came to teach us. We hope the children have fun while learning the important things this time of year holds.

He lives.

Love,

Carolyn Russell
Children's Ministry Director

Welcome to Sunday School



FIRST UMC OF ARROYO GRANDE JOY JAR

.....Judy Atwood, Lay Leader

As we are now in Lent, I hope you are finding yourself more aware of the blessings, or joys that come into your life. The JOY JAR remains in the Narthex for you to place your listing of Joys. In our busy lives it is good to slow down a little and recognize what Joys we really have. Paper and Pens are there for your use. I will look for them in the jar.

New Joys:

- * My joy last week was having my family with me, including my daughter visiting from Milan, to celebrate my 92nd birthday (Margaret C.)
- * Birthday blessings for Rev. Mary B.
- * Birthday blessings for Mary Thronson
- * Bobbi Merris is back in worship and on the road to full recovery
- * Birthday blessings for Betty Johnson
- * Val McClure's brother, Mike, is improved and out of hospital
- * Noisy offering totaled \$476.70 for 2 months
- * Lamar and Cristy Van Hook are thankful for your prayers
- * Ann Smith reported tests showed NO Leukemia
- * Bobbi Merris and Jackie Jackson, were pleased to have neighbors join them in worship
- * Alice Addison's learned her granddaughter has chosen to marry here in the area in March 2017
- * Joe Brown's daughter had successful hand surgery
- * Birthday blessings for Irene Kliesch
- * Birthday blessings for Armando Lucero
- * Julie Burns had successful knee surgery and is thankful for her church families prayers and support
- * Staff appreciation Sunday

I hope you will continue to recognize your JOYS and share them with us. Blessed Lent.

Judy Atwood



News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, chair

MISSION TEAM: MARCH 2016

Judy Atwood

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. [One Great Hour of Sharing, March 6](#)
2. [Meet John Elmore, March 16](#)
3. [Noisy Offering Update](#)
4. [2016 Missionaries](#)
5. [Central Coast Team Mission](#)
6. [Special Giving Totals](#)

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

1. ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING, MARCH 6...The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is present in times of crisis and disaster around the world, acting as the hands of Christ in the most difficult or tragic times. This organization is able to provide fast and meaningful relief in the aftermath of disasters thanks in large part to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering collected by local congregations every year. When your congregation contributes to this offering, you help pay for the general operating costs of UMCOR. Because of this offering, UMCOR is able to direct 100% of other donations directly to specific disaster relief.

2: MEET JOHN ELMORE, MARCH 16...

The Mission Team invites you to join us in welcoming John Elmore, missionary from Chili. We will have a potluck meal at 5 pm followed by his presentation. We will furnish Lasagna and Garlic Bread and beverages; we invite you to bring salads and desserts. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MARCH 16...5:00 P.M.**

3. NOISY OFFERING UPDATE:

Thank you for your great response to the noisy offering. The children had great fun!

4. 2016 MISSIONARIES...We chose the Moons for our Covenant Missionaries this year. Our CalPac field missionaries are Charley Brower (Alaska), John Elmore (Chile), Gary Locklear (NC), Paul Jeffrey (GBGM), and Steve Copley (ARK).

5. CENTRAL COAST MISSION TEAM...If you are interested in going to UMCOR West Depot on May 15th-May 21st Look for info on Mission Table.

Many hands continue to do many things.



6. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2015

Our total for 2015 was \$16,934.70

SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2016

Human Relations Sunday	288.00
Noisy Offering	64.50
People's Kitchen food	562.11
People's Kitchen Misc.	940.00
South County Food Bank	62.11
2 MONTH TOTAL:	\$1,916.72

A THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION.

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

								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
		1 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice-Handbell Room	2 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 12 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Lenten Study of JOHN (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)	3 8 AM People's Kitchen Prep - Leave to Serve 11:15 AM 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room) 6 PM Worship Team (MMR)	4 Spirit Day at AGUMCC 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 3:30 PM AGUMCC Closed 3:30 PM AGUMCC Staff Development-4 PM—5:30 PM (MMR)	5 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up (S) 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)		
6 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Coffee Hour: All Church Special Offering: One Great Hour of Sharing	7 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	8 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 9:30 AM UMW Steering Comm (L) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room) 7 PM Trustees (MMR)	9 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 12 PM Ladies Christian Counseling (L) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Lenten Study of JOHN (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir	10 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Finance Team (MMR) 12 PM Esther Circle(MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room)	11 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) Noon Deadline for Newsletter articles (church office)	12 8 AM-3 PM UMW Disability Program (MMR,S,K,CH) 9 AM AGUMCC Workday (Courtyard)		
13 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service 11:45 AM Caring Congregation (L) Coffee Hour: Board of Trustees	14 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	15 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 1:30 PM Preschool Board - open session (MMR) 2:30 PM Preschool Board - closed session (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room) 7 PM JOY Circle (member's home)	16 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Communications Committee (L) ??? 12 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L) 5 PM Potluck Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Missionary, John Elmore Visit (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)	17 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 11 AM Finance Team (PS) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room) 7 PM Church Council—Wear Green!—(MMR)	18 8:30 AM Bible Study (L)	19 8:30 AM UMM Breakfast Meeting (Coco's) 1 PM San Luis Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal (S) 5:30 PM Praise Team Set Up 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal (S)		
20  8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service 11:45 AM Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt (CH,K) Coffee Hour: Joy Circle 3 PM San Luis Chamber Orchestra Concert-Set Up at 12:30 PM (S)	21 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	22 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room)	23 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Mary-Martha-Esther (MMR) 12 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Lenten Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)	24  8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM AGUMCC Staff Development-Set up at 8 AM (MMR) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room) 6 PM Maundy Thurs (S)	25 8:30 AM Bible Study (L) 11 AM UMW Book Club (MMR) 3 PM Ecumenical Good Friday (St. Pat's)	26 		
27  8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Coffee Hour: Mission Team	28 Pastor's Day Off 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry (CH) 7 PM Women of Prayer (S)	29 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR) 11 AM UMW "Chair Yoga Class" (CH) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (H Room)	30 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 9 AM Church Work Day 12 PM Ladies Christian Counseling Groups (L) 5 PM Free Dinner (CH) 5:45 PM Bible Study (CH) 7 PM Chancel Choir (S)	31 8:30 AM Senior Exercise (CH) 10 AM Intercessory Prayer (L) 1 PM Mission Team (MMR) 5 PM Grande Ringers Practice (Handbell Room)				





Church Office: (805) 481-2692
 E-mail: fumcag@sbcglobal.net
 Find us on Facebook at: **United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande**
www.facebook.com/fumcag

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis

E-mail: revmaryb@fumcag.org

Missionary (retired) / Lay Leader:

Judy Atwood

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Website Manager: Jamie Foster

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Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler

Multi-Media Director: Mike Coho

Handbell Choir Dir.: Leonard Lutz

Children's Education Director:

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Bishop: Minerva G. Carcaño

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Rev. James Powell

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Other contributors:

Varied Teams / Committees

Deadline for April Issue
Friday, March 11, at Noon

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Caring Congregation Committee

Approximately 90 people enjoyed lunch with our new members on Sunday, February 28th. What a great job Pat Wiemers and Buffy Prestemon did planning and putting on the whole event. Our goal was to encourage all our members and friends to "get to know" one another better. We hope that happened and that you learned something about some of our members. Thanks to all who attended.

Our committee is now planning for the delivery of Easter Lilies to our members and friends that are not able to participate in our Easter activities. If you would like to deliver an Easter lily, please stop by the Caring Congregation table and sign up. You will find it a rewarding experience!

By the way, have you noticed that the "Congregational Care Committee" has a new name?? We changed our name a bit to better reflect our goal to become a *congregation that cares about its members and friends.*

We are now known as the "Caring Congregation" committee!

Patti Melsheimer, chair

ON MARCH 12TH



Announcing The Merger of Mary-Martha and Esther Circles



Mary-Martha Circle and Esther Circle have merged! The next meeting is Wednesday, March 23 at 10 AM in the McMillen Room for a combined meeting. Please come join the Circle!

Carina Avila	03/02
Tom Wersen	03/04
Jerry Smith	03/05
Kris Stephenson	03/05
Lucy Jacob	03/07
Doris Leddy	03/07
Ethel Gilliland	03/08
Pat Wiemers	03/13
Art Lowe	03/18
Tony Harvey	03/20
Marian Middleton	03/23
Ariel Waterman	03/28
Ann Smith	03/29
Chuck Ashton	03/30
Imelda Lowe	03/30
Arianna Davis	03/31

MILESTONES DEATHS

Mitzi Ikeda
 JoAnn Wizemann

Did we miss a birthday?

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



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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Arroyo Grande, CA 93420
Address SERVICE REQUESTED



Statements of Giving are available on request from the Financial Secretary, Virginia Mothes. Her email is virginiamothes@att.net. Alternatively, you may leave a request in her mailbox in the church office or a phone message for the financial office by calling 481-2692.

Please note that the statements are not available in the church office.

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www.facebook.com/fumcag

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ELT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ON-LINE SOON

Everett Lee Taylor Scholarship applications will be available on-line and in the church office in mid-March. The purpose of this scholarship is to help deserving United Methodist students enrolled in accredited universities, colleges, and technical schools defray the cost of their education.

Only students who are or have been active members of the Arroyo Grande First United Methodist Church may apply. Graduating high school seniors must include letters of recommendation as well as a high school transcript with their completed applications. Returning college students will need a college transcript but are not required to submit letters of recommendation. Students may apply for this scholarship more than once provided they have maintained a minimum 2.5 GPA in their college work.

The completed application with required attachments must be turned in to the church office by May 15th. Scholarship recipients will be introduced to the congregation in early June.