

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

Cast~a~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

DECEMBER 2017

Christmas Eve Service

Sunday

December

24th

7:00 P.M.

Sanctuary



A Service

of

Scripture

Carols

Candlelight

ADVENT STUDY CLASSES—Wed. Nov. 29 -Wed. Dec. 27

HANGING OF THE GREENS Sat. Dec. 2, 10:30 AM

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Dec. 3 Advent Potluck at 11:30 AM

CHRISTMAS PARKING LOT GIVEAWAY—Sat. Dec. 9, 11 AM—2 PM.

CHRISTMAS JUBILEE & SHOW— Fri. Dec. 15, 7 PM

5 CITIES FOOD BASKETS—Sat. Dec. 16, Central Coast Baptist

ADVENT CHURCH SERVICES—Sundays, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24 at 8:30 and 10:30 AM

275 North Halcyon Road . Arroyo Grande . CA 93420 . (805) 481-2692



Greetings!

The journey to Christmas begins with a lectionary-based sermon series called ADVENT HIGHWAYS. Worship your way to Christmas as we open our hearts to the Lord. We begin with repentance, prepare a path for God and celebrate the joy that comes with justice that brings peace, and continue the trek down Bethlehem's Road to the manger where we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. Be with us the Sunday after Christmas as well, to say goodbye to 2017 and hello to 2018 together.

~Rev. Mary B.

Advent I

December 3, 2017 – 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
ADVENT HIGHWAYS
“Turn Around”
Isaiah 64:1-9, Mark 13:24-37

Advent II

December 10, 2017 - 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
ADVENT HIGHWAYS
“A Path for God”
Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

Advent III

December 17, 2017 - 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
ADVENT HIGHWAYS
“Joy of Justice”
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Luke 1:46b-55

Advent IV

December 24, 2017 - 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
ADVENT HIGHWAYS
“Bethlehem Road”
Isaiah 52:7-10, Luke 2:1-14

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.
HOME FOR CHRISTMAS:
“Love's Pure Light”
Isaiah 9:2-7, Luke 2:1-20

First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2017
AT THE END OF THE ROAD:
“Blessing”
Isaiah 61:-10-62:3, Luke 2:22-40

Adult Christian Education



Women's Prayer

Mondays at 7 PM

Women come to pray together



Fridays at 8:30 AM

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



Dates	Topics and Schedule
Sunday, December 3	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis
Wednesday, December 6	• Adult Study 5:45—6:45 PM "FAITHFUL: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph" by Adam Hamilton
Sunday, December 10	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis
Wednesday, December 13	• Adult Study 5:45—6:45 PM "FAITHFUL: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph" by Adam Hamilton
Sunday, December 17	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis
Wednesday, December 20	• Adult Study 5:45—6:45 PM "FAITHFUL: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph" by Adam Hamilton
Sunday, December 24	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis • 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday, December 27	• Adult Study 5:45—6:45 PM "FAITHFUL: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph" by Adam Hamilton
Sunday, December 31	• 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

DECEMBER LITURGISTS

DECEMBER 3

8:30 a.m. Joseph Brown
10:30 a.m. Barbara Reineke

DECEMBER 10

8:30 a.m. Sharon Roemer
10:30 a.m. Judy Leonard

DECEMBER 17

8:30 a.m. Larry Baughman
10:30 a.m. Nancy St. Laurent

DECEMBER 24

8:30 a.m. Susan Thronson
10:30 a.m. Judy Atwood

DECEMBER 31

8:30 a.m. Lucy Jacob
10:30 a.m. Rose Ann Steiner



WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

**FAITHFUL:
Christmas through the Eyes of
Joseph**

by Adam Hamilton—5 weeks

From his beginnings as a carpenter to his role as the father of Jesus, Joseph's place in the nativity story contains valuable lessons.

Absent from much of the biblical narrative, Joseph never spoke a word, but his courageous actions were crucial to the birth of Christ and God's salvation of humanity.

In life, we encounter circumstances we would never have chosen. Joseph provides us an example of obeying God when we don't understand and moving forward in God's strength.

**Christmas Blessings from
the Choir!**



We will have some lovely new Christmas anthems to share this season leading up to Christmas Eve, as well as some older beloved ones this season.

Sunday the 24th the choir will sing at both the 10:30 service and the Christmas Eve service. We will have a beautiful cello rendition of *Oh Holy Night* by our wonderful Roz Claussen and *This Holy Night* on Christmas Eve.

Some of the other songs for the season include *A Song in the Air* with a delightful Latin American rhythm to the soft and gentle sounds of *Kneeling at the Manger*. Come and join us for a fabulous season of praise celebrating our Savior's birth.

~Julie Burns, Chancel Choir Director



Val McClure, publicity

JUBILEE IS BIG DECEMBER NEWS

The annual UMM Christmas Jubilee is set for Friday, December 15th from 7:00 to 9:30 PM. The event includes a stage show, free refreshments and fellowship. Most of the performers are members of our congregation and come up with some brilliant magic, song and dance, music and other specialty acts and presentations. A free dessert table and coffee, tea and hot chocolate is open to all.



This is a family event; children are welcome! Performers who have not signed up for the show presentation should contact Bernie Hawkins or Mary Hawkins to sign up.

A special event for the kids — a very possible appearance by Santa Claus

NEXT UMM BREAKFAST MEETING

The next UMM Breakfast meeting, with a speaker, is scheduled at Coco's Restaurant on January 20, 2018 at 9:00 AM.

Speaker and program will be announced later.

Get it on the calendar now!



PANCAKES ANYONE?

Hard to believe, but it's almost pancake time again. Scheduled for Sunday, January 28th, this enjoyable super breakfast will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, and fruit cup, hot chocolate, tea and coffee. This full breakfast costs \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth, and kids under 10 years FREE. This is a great chance to invite your neighbor or friend to breakfast followed by the excellent service we always enjoy. Tickets are available after January 21 from Wayne Huggins or at the door the day of the breakfast.





"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, Publicity

UMW Presents

**CHRISTMAS POTLUCK
AND ADVENT WREATH
MAKING PARTY**

Sunday, December 3rd at 11:30

Bring a favorite Family Christmas Dish to share. After enjoying this Christmas potluck, each family group will make an Advent Wreath to take home and celebrate Advent together.

A donation of \$10 for materials is suggested.

Due to limited supplies, early reservations are requested.

**The UMW Christmas Boutique
and Continental Café
held on November 4 was a tremendous success!**
*Proceeds support Methodist Missions at home
and around the world*



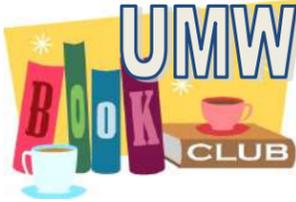

Thank you to all the volunteers who made the beautiful and tasty items for the boutique all year long, staffed the event and the café, and brought Christmas a little early to FUMCAG.

Thank you to all who supported the event!

Photos by Judy Atwood

UMW Book Club News – No December Meeting

Due to the busy holidays the UMW Book Club has decided to wait until January for their next book discussion. The next book, Driving Miss Norma: One Family's Journey Saying "Yes" to Living, was written by Norma's son, Tim Bauerschmidt, and his wife, Ramie. This true story is a delightful account of 90-year-old Norma's decision to enjoy her life despite her diagnosis of cancer. The three of them, who travel across the country with their dog, Ringo, experience adventures and people who actually help Norma's health to improve.



Join the group on Friday, January 26th at 11 A.M. in the McMillen room. You can contact the local libraries for a copy of it or purchase your own through websites like Amazon.com. See Patti Melsheimer if you need help in getting a copy of the book.

submitted by Judy Leonard

This is the season to be grateful.

And I hope you will consider showing your gratefulness to your Church. There are a number of ways of doing this, many of which have tax advantages. If you have a required minimum distribution from an IRA, you may now rollover part or all of the minimum required distribution to a charitable organization. You will pay no tax on a charitable rollover distribution and it does not become part of the normal limitation on charitable deductions.



If you have a stock that has appreciated, you may donate it to a charity without paying capital gains and deduct its full market value as a charitable deduction. This is a better strategy than selling the stock and contributing the cash. Also, please consider incorporating a gift to your Church in your estate plans. Gifts to the First United Methodist

Church of Arroyo Grande may be designated for a specific purpose, undesignated, applied to your annual estimate of giving, or put into the Endowment funds, depending on your wishes.

Over the years the Endowment Board has funded a wide variety of activities and mission projects that are not covered by the regular annual budget. These include sending kids to camp, scholarships, Vacation Bible School, congregational care local and international mission projects. When the Church was facing a severe financial crisis a few years ago, we were able to continue our programs because of a loan from the Endowment Board. Due to the generous contributions of members last month, we were able to pay back an additional \$3,000 of the Endowment loans.

Please consult your tax professional for further details about the tax law. Please contact Acting Treasurer Joel Anderson or Endowment Board Chair Wayne Huggins if you have questions about gifts to the Church.

TABLE OF 8 PROGRAM

We are currently forming the groups! **Those who want to continue to participate need to sign up again.** New members to the program are highly welcomed as well.



Social dinner groups will be formed consisting of 6 to 8 people. The purpose is for church members to have an opportunity to gather monthly in a social setting with other members. This will provide an environment to get to know and care for one another on a more personal level (and have some fun, too). The group

can decide the specifics—dining out or rotating dinner at their homes. The group will gather monthly for 6 to 8 months. Then the groups will be reconfigured to provide opportunities to get to know other church members.

This program fits anyone's needs. If your home is too small for 6 to 8 people, no worry, you can go out to dinner at a restaurant, host at someone else's house, have a picnic, or make a reservation to use the church. Consider having a little more fun and get to know your church family members better.

*For more information please contact
Marjorie Ott or Lucy Jacob*

And the survey says...

Thank you all who completed our recent survey. We had an excellent response, with many good comments. Here are the raw results. The Church Council will carefully review with an eye towards what to do to improve and grow our Church.

Surveys returned: 86

Percentages are percentage of surveys turned in, percentages may not add to 100% because some did not answer all questions and some provided multiple answers. Questions are shown in summary form. See original survey for exact wording of questions.

AGE: 0-20 2%, 21-54 8%, 55-79 65%, 80-OVER 24%

MEMBER: YES 73% NO 23%

LENGTH OF INVOLVEMENT IN CHURCH: Average 20 Years, Longest 71 years!!!, Shortest 4 weeks

ATTEND: MOST WEEKS 91%, ABOUT HALF TIME 5%, OCCASIONALLY 2%, RARELY 0%

ORIGINAL REASON FOR SELECTING THIS CHURCH:

RELOCATION 66%, CHURCH FOR WEDDING OR BAPTISM 0%, PERSONAL LIFE CHANGE 6%
LEFT ANOTHER CONGREGATION 8%, PLACE TO GROW 9%, CONVERSION 1%

HOW ORIGINALLY FOUND CHURCH:

TELEPHONE BOOK 6%, NEWSPAPER 3%, SIGN 16%, INTERNET 7%, FRIEND OR FAMILY 48%

MAIN REASON FOR CONTINUING TO COME TO THIS CHURCH:

WORSHIP 85%, MUSIC 71%, SOCIALIZING 40%, GROUPS 63%, BIBLE STUDIES 6%,
FRIENDLINESS OF PEOPLE 9%, OUTREACHES & MINISTRIES 17%, LOCATION 17%, TIME OF SERVICES 19%

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH OVERALL QUALITY OF CHURCH:

VERY SATISFIED 49%, SATISFIED 47% SOMEWHAT SATISFIED 0% NOT SATISFIED 1%

DO YOU FEEL THAT:

A. YOU ARE CARED FOR BY THIS CHURCH: YES 80%, SOMEWHAT 12%, NO 1%

B. YOU ENJOY PARTICIPATING: YES 87%, SOMEWHAT 7%, NO 0%

C. THE CHURCH PROMOTES LEARNING & ENCOURAGES YOU YES 78%, SOMEWHAT 10%, NO 2%

D. THE CHURCH ENCOURAGES YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH: YES 76%, SOMEWHAT 12%, NO 2%

E. SNACKS AFTER SERVICES ARE HELPFUL YES 58%, SOMEWHAT 16%, NO 5%

WHAT ACTIVITIES DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN:

METHODIST MEN OR UMW 36%, WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS 10%, OTHER GROUPS 38%,
BIBLE STUDY OR PRAYER GROUPS 17%, CHURCH COMMITTEES OR TEAMS 38%,
SOCIAL EVENTS 45%, FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES 42%

HOW SATISFIED ARE WITH HOW THE CHURCH COMMUNICATES WITH YOU:

VERY SATISFIED 52% SATISFIED 35%, SOMEWHAT SATISFIED 2% NOT SATISFIED 0%

DO YOU RECEIVE ADEQUATE INFORMATION FROM THE CHURCH ABOUT THE FOLLOWING: YES NO

EVENTS OF THE CHURCH 92% 0%

GROUPS IN THE CHURCH 85% 3%

HOW DO YOU RECEIVE MOST OF YOUR INFORMATION ABOUT CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Weekly bulletin 79%, CAST-A-NET 73%, E-mail 27%, Facebook 3%, Website 55%
Bulletin Boards 8% Announcements 60% Word of mouth 26%

HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE:

A FEW TIMES A WEEK 5% A FEW TIMES A MONTH 17%, ONCE A MONTH 33%

A FEW TIMES A YEAR 1% NEVER 22% DON'T KNOW CHURCH HAD WEBSITE 6%

DON'T HAVE COMPUTER 5%

WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR ON THE WEBSITE:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 43% CAST-A-NET 26% WEEKLY BULLETIN 14%

CHILDREN'S CENTER INFORMATION 3%, CONTACT INFORMATION 12%

PICTURES OF PAST EVENTS 17% CHURCH HISTORY 7%

HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE:

A FEW TIMES A WEEK 5% A FEW TIMES A MONTH 0%, ONCE A MONTH 13%

A FEW TIMES A YEAR 1% NEVER 44% DON'T KNOW CHURCH HAD FACEBOOK PAGE 20%

DON'T HAVE COMPUTER 5%

BEST TIME FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00AM— 1% 8:30AM—29% 9:00AM—10% 10:00AM—9%

10:30 AM—49% 11:00AM— 2% 11:30AM— 1% 5:00 PM—1%

~Survey data compiled by the Church Council



Hello,

The Christmas season is upon us! This month, we move from the Old Testament to the New Testament, as the children focus on the Nativity story. Each week, children will explore more details from the story, as we ready ourselves for the celebration of Jesus' birth, as well as events which occurred after his birth. We will discuss the advent wreath and its meaning, as well. We hope children will understand and feel that this is a very holy and special time for our Christian family.

Also, this month, kids and families will have fun at the **Christmas Jubilee**, Friday, December 15th, 7:00—9:30 PM. Come one, come all for an evening of singing, food and fellowship.

On Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24th, starting during Sunday school and extending until 1:00, we will have a **"Happy Birthday Jesus" party!** We will have a lesson, eat pizza, play games, do crafts and have cake as we celebrate Jesus! We hope all the kids can join in the fun that day!

We hope you have a blessed Sunday, keeping the spirit of Christmas close during this busy season. We hope to see children joining in with our lessons as we support their understanding of the season.

Merry Christmas!

Carolyn Russell



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY 2017

At First United Methodist Church, Arroyo Grande, we lift up the names of our departed members and people whose services were conducted through our ministry who have died since our last All Saints Day in November 2016. With gratitude for the privilege of having known them, we give thanks to God for their lives.

Edna Louise Nichols	November 12, 2016
Dorothy Reineke	December 11, 2016
David Fear	December 16, 2016
Leslie Ann Simms (9/28/16)	February 4, 2017
*Donna Truman	February 9, 2017
Glenda Guitan	February 10, 2017
*Ruby Weddell	August 24, 2017
Carla Gootee	September 19, 2017
Ruth Dohi (5/27/16)	September 20, 2017
Harold Headrick	October 1, 2017
Joyce Anderson	October 14, 2017
*Benadene Duffin	October 22, 2017

*members

() died earlier, listed date of burial



CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH LIBRARY FOR NEW BOOKS!

Jan Herber has just let us know that there are new books in the church library:

Every Woman's Battle by Shannon Ethridge
What on Earth Am I Here For by Rick Warren
Not A Fan by Kyle Idleman
Standing Up When Life Falls Down Around You
 by Elizabeth B. Brown
The Red Tent by Anita Diamant



News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, *chair*

MISSION TEAM: Dec. 2017

Judy Atwood

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. [December Giving](#)
2. [Faith and Facts: Gun Violence](#)
3. [Special Giving Totals for 2017](#)

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

1. DECEMBER GIVING

We as a congregation are a generous group. We have a new ministry of a "take one or leave one" coat rack for us to share a coat for someone else that needs one. It is estimated that so far we provided about 30 coats at the time of this writing. We also have 60 blankets ready for the 5 Cities Christian Women's Basket Give Away. We will also have some blankets to be given out at our own Giveaway on December 9th.

2. FAITH AND FACTS: GUN VIOLENCE HEALTH

What does the Bible say?

Many nations shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob: that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. God shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. (Micah 4:2-3)

What does The United Methodist Church say?

Whether it happens in the towns of northeastern Nigeria, a suburb in the United States, the streets of Australia, or an office in France, gun violence has become an all-too frightening phenomenon. We need the reality of Micah's vision more than ever. (2016 Book of Resolutions, #3428, "Our Call to End Gun Violence")

What do the facts say?

*Researchers conservatively estimate that gun violence costs the U.S. economy \$229 billion per year in medical treatment, criminal-justice proceedings, corrections, new security precautions, and reductions in quality of life. U.S. taxpayers carry half of these costs.

*Though attracting widespread media attention, mass shootings account for less than 1% of firearm deaths annually in the United States.

What do you say?

*Advocate for laws that prevent and reduce gun violence, including universal background checks, ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty, banning concealed firearms on school campuses, and ensuring all guns are sold through licensed gun retailers.



3. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2017

We are tracking our special giving totals for 2017. Watch how we are growing throughout the year.

ELT Scholarship	\$3,681.64
UMCOR-Human Relations Offering	310.00
Missions	13,000.00
People's Kitchen Food	563.61
People's Kitchen Misc.	20,755.00
South County Food Bank	505.74
UMCOR-UMCOR Sunday	582.00
UMCOR-Imagine No Malaria	2.00
UMCOR-Native American	131.00
Noisy Offering	12.40
UMCOR-Peace with Justice	135.00
UMCOR-Hurricane Harvey	2,180.00
UMCOR-World Communion Sunday	514.00

10 months total through October \$42,372.39



December

1
Spirit Day at AGUMCC
8:30 AM Bible Study-L
3:30 PM AGUMCC Closed
4:00 PM AGUMCC Staff Development

2
10 :30 AM Hang-ing of the Greens

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service 11:30 AM UMW Advent Potluck & Wreath making Coffee Hour—Communications	4 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry—CH 5:45 PM Quilting Class-G McGuire—CH 7 PM Women of Prayer—S	5 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters—MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga Class—CH 5 PM Handbells-HR	6 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Church Work Day 5 PM Free Dinner—CH 5:45 PM Adult Study Class—CH 7 PM Chancel Choir —S	7 8 AM Peoples Kitchen Prep—K—11:15 AM leave to serve 8:30 AM Senior Exerc—CH 10 AM Intercessory Pr—L 5 PM Handbells-HR 6 PM Worship Team-PS	8 8:30 AM Bible Study-L	9 8:00 AM Giveaway for Needy (CH, K, N, PL) Event 11am-2pm
10 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Coffee Hour— Staff Parish Relations Committee	11 9 AM Preschool Prac —S Right Side Pews 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry—CH 7 PM Women of Prayer—S	12 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Preschool Prac —S Right Side Pews 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters—MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga Class—CH 5 PM Handbells-HR 7 PM Board of Trustees (PS)	13 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Preschool Practice —S Right Side Pews 9 AM Church Work Day 9 AM M-M-E Chistmas Party—MMF 9:30 AM UMW Steering-L 5 PM Free Dinner—CH 5:45 PM Adult Study Class—CH 7 PM Chancel Choir —S	14 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Preschool Practice —S Right Side Pews 10 AM Intercessory Pr—L 1:30 PM Life Stories—MMR 5 PM Handbells-HR	15 8:30 AM Bible Study-L 12 Noon Deadline Newsletter Articles-Office 7:00 PM UMM Annual Christmas Jubilee—CH	16 Five Cities Christian Women's Food Baskets—Central Coast Baptist Church
17 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Coffee Hour—Endowment/ELT	18 1 PM Emergency Food Pantry—CH 7 PM Women of Prayer—S	19 8:30 AM Senior Exercise-CH 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters —MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga Class —CH Preschool Board 1:30 PM Open session 2:00 PM Closed session 5 PM Handbells—HR 7 PM JOY Circle (at home of a member)	20 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Communications-L 5 PM Free Dinner—CH 5:45 PM Adult Study Class—CH 7 PM Chancel Choir —S	21 8:30 AM Senior Exercise —CH 10 AM Intercessory Prayer—L 5 PM Handbells-HR	22 8:30 AM Bible Study-L	23
24 8:00 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Coffee Hour—Finance 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service—S Christmas Eve	25 No Emergency Food Church Office Closed CHRISTMAS DAY	26 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters— MMR 11 AM UMW Chair Yoga Class— CH 5 PM Handbells-HR	27 8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9 AM Church Work Day Fellowship Dinner and Adult Study on Break 7 PM Chancel Choir —S	28 8:30 AM Senior Exercise —CH 10 AM Intercessory Prayer—L 5 PM Handbells-HR	29 Church Office Closed 8:30 AM Bible Study-L	30
31 8:00 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service Student Day Offering Coffee Hour—Caring Congregation						

Meet Our
**CHURCH
STAFF**

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

Office Administrator:

Frances Robertson

Website Manager: Jamie Foster

Choir Director: Julie Burns

Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler

Multi-Media Director: Duncan Leonard

Handbell Choir Director: Leonard Lutz

Children's Education Director: TBD

Bishop: Grant J. Hagiya

District Superintendent:

Rev. James Powell

AG UM Children's Center

Director: Madrigal Quaglino

E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net

Office: (805) 481-2223



Chair: Joe Brown

Members At Large (alphabetically):

Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Rev. Mary Birgelaitis, Judy Leonard, Virginia Mothes, Frances Robertson.

Layout Editor: Frances Robertson

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

Other contributors:

Varied Teams / Committees

**Deadline for January Issue
Friday, December 15 at Noon**

PLEASE NOTE:

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



The Angel Tree

The Angel Tree will be set up again this year during the Hanging of the Greens. The Angel Tree gifts are for Foster children and other needy children in San Luis Obispo County.

Please take the original gift tag and attach the tag to the gift you purchase. You will need to sign the duplicate tag and leave the duplicate tag on the tree. I request the duplicate tag in case you lose the original tag, as then I know the child's name and which Social Worker the child is assigned to. You must attach the original tag to your UNWRAPPED gift or gift(s) and bring them to church on Sundays in December or you can bring the UNWRAPPED gifts to the church office. You can use the duplicate tag on your UNWRAPPED gift or gift(s) if you lose the original tag.

All gifts must be brought to church no later than December 20, 2017. If you have any questions you may contact Jan Treat.

Thank you all for your generous giving spirit to help these children in need especially at Christmas

The Lord's Blessings to you all.

~Jan Treat



Judy Heiney	01
David Beaman	03
Stephen Wise	05
Michael Balster	07
Adeline Bottorff	08
Jamie Foster	09
Eva McClure	09
William Russell	09
Michael Clark	10
Nancy Sperling	10
Gene Heiney	12
T. Richard Duffin	13
Susan Thronson	13
Julie Burns	16
Kent Unsworth	20
Cyndee Rohla	24
Eric Duffin	26
Nicole Baughman	27
Jed Moore	27
Roy Ferrari	28
Harry Egan	30

If we have missed YOUR birthday, please let us know and we will gladly add you to the birthday list!



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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

CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY

Saturday, December 9
11:00 AM — 2:00 PM
FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF ARROYO GRANDE
275 N. HALCYON ROAD
ARROYO GRANDE

- NEW SOCKS & WARM CLOTHES
- CHRISTMAS GIFTS
- BLANKETS
- JACKETS
- MUCH MORE !!



Helping those
in need and
the homeless
of our community



Visit us on the web at worshipweekly.com

Find us on Facebook at United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande
www.facebook.com/fumcag

IN THIS ISSUE

COVER STORY

Christmas Eve Service
Special Events

Advent Highways.....	2
Christian Education, Chancel Choir.....	3
UMM Activities.....	4
UMW Activities.....	5
Treasurer Report, Table of 8.....	6
Church Council Survey.....	7
Sunday School, All Saints, Books.....	8
Mission Team News	9
Calendar.....	10
Birthdays, The Angel Tree.....	11
Giveaway, Jubilee.....	12

Children's Center Chronicle

It's the UMM Annual Jubilee

Friday, December 15th, 7-9:30 PM
Criswell Hall

Fun for the Whole Family
Refreshments—and It's All **FREE**



Don't Miss the "All Church"
TALENT SHOW at the **JUBILEE**