



Cast-A-Net

"The kingdom of God is like a net that was cast into the sea" -- Matthew 13:47

NOVEMBER 2025

275 North Halcyon Road Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 805-481-2692 www.WorshipWeekly.com



Words from the Pastor



Friends, I love our church! We have such a great group of people and leaders. We offer hospitality and invite others in so well. We do such an amazing job! I'd like to touch on a couple of exciting things we have coming up. The first one is All Saints' Sunday, November 2. We will be remembering those in our congregation who have passed over the last year. This will be my first All Saints' service at First United

Methodist Church (UMC) of Arroyo Grande, and I will be learning the ways we celebrate here. In that regard, I would like to mention the Tree of Life in the Narthex. Perhaps there is someone in the congregation you would like to honor and remember, or perhaps a group would like to remember a person. Your remembrance and gifts are ways to honor and cherish the memory of our friends and loved ones in First UMC Arroyo Grande. Our Tree of Life is designed and dedicated to give special recognition to members who have enriched our lives together. For more information, please pick up one of the brochures in the Narthex about the Tree of Life.

On November 16, we are having a luncheon for those interested in becoming a member or learning more about our church. I will briefly talk about the United Methodist Church and this local congregation. We may include a facility tour. Please see Dorine Bolterman at the 8:30 service, Kerren Brown at the 10:30 service, or contact the church office if you would like join us for this event. Come and explore what this church is about.

On November 9, we are starting Advent. Yes, this is a little different than the typical 4-week Advent. The 7-week Advent is rooted in ancient Christian tradition and is still observed by many Orthodox churches. Expanding Advent gives us more time during this busy season for reflection, anticipation, and

spiritual preparation for Christ's birth. Theologically it is about the celebration of the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season.

Advent is a season of waiting. What are we waiting for? Summed up in one response, we are waiting for the full manifestation of the Reign of God that is the Kingdom of Christ! We wait by celebrating the Birth of Christ, and look forward to the day the Kingdom of God will break through completely. We wait to celebrate the Birth of Jesus. We wait for Christmas. Waiting isn't easy, but it is worth it. It's like waiting for the birth of a child. The song "Closing Time" by Semisonic is not about the nightly last call at a bar. It is not an Advent or Christmas song. It was written by Dan Wilson about anticipation. His wife was pregnant and it was time for her to have the baby. And now you will probably have that songs catchy lyrics stuck in your head for the rest of the day!

We will start this Advent season, wrap up this year, and start a new year. We turn our focus and attention to preparation for the celebration of Christmas. Science tells us we as humans are wired for anticipation, more than getting the thing we are waiting for. Advent is our time of anticipation for the celebration to come. This season is the launch pad for a great celebration of Jesus's coming.

Starting Advent now will help us be more prepared and ready to celebrate Christmas. We need to stop and think, to pause and remember. As time in the world is speeding up, we are slowing down to reflect on the gift of Christ. There are many holidays celebrated during this time of year. In the coming weeks, we have Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and others. We also have things like Black Friday and Cyber Monday. We are not taking away from any of them. During this time of frantic activity, Advent helps by taking us to the place our souls need to rest.

Wesley Thompson



HARVEST FESTIVAL PARADE



CARINA MENDEZ'S BABY SHOWER



The Baby Shower for Carina Mendez (church secretary, Blanca's granddaughter) was very successful. Everyone had fun. There were lots of presents including many from those that couldn't attend. Games were played, including "How Many Jelly Beans in a Baby Bottle" won by Makiyah Thompson. Another game, "Shopping for Baby", was won by Faye Cuddy, one of our younger members. The older members apparently were not up on the current cost of baby supplies. Sandwiches, salads, cake and a 60's style punch were served.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**



United
Women
in Faith

NEW MEMBER CLASS FORMING

Our first New Membership Class is forming with Pastor Wesley Thompson leading the class. We are asking all those interested in becoming a new member of First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande (FUMCAG) to join our informational class on November 16th, 2025 at 12:00 after of second service. We will meet in the McMillen Room for a luncheon and round table to become acquainted with our church. Pastor Wesley Thompson will share with us what it means to be a Methodist, followed by an introduction of our Church Council and a brief talk about their role in guiding our church. A folder will be available to take home, containing an organizational chart, Administrative and Program Chairs narrative reviewing the work of the individual committees, meetings, and contact information. A campus tour will be available for those interested in staying after the meeting.

For those prospective members wishing to become a member of First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande by Confession of Faith, Reaffirmation of Faith or Transfer, please contact Dorine Bolterman from 1st service or Kerren Brown from 2nd service or call the church office. New members will be brought into full Membership at FUMCAG on November 23, 2025 at both services to be confirmed by the congregation. There will be a reception during our Hospitality time for all New Members following 2nd Service in Criswell Hall. This will give you the opportunity to meet your new church family personally and celebrate this special occasion. You can contact our Membership Chair, Kerren Brown, if you have questions. Leave a message at the church office and I will get in touch with you promptly.

--Kerren Brown

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

The **Holiday Boutique** is almost here, November 7, 8, & 9. We will be open for business Friday 9am-7pm, Saturday 9am to 2pm and after services on Sunday. I can't believe how busy we are with, last minute ideas and favorite projects to finish. We can still use your help. You can help us with pricing, setting up or working the days of the boutique. Sign up at the UWF table in Crisswell Hall. Everyone is welcome to come help. We have kits to pick up and take home and of course you can donate items; like quilts, table runners, placemats, potholders, baked goods and plants. We traditionally have also accepted vintage items to sell in our vintage corner. We would love to have more. We appreciate your help.

The United Women of Faith will be serving a light lunch before the **Advent Workshop** on Sunday November 30. We will have fun making Christmas items and decorations. Sign up to join us at the connections counter next Sunday.

Circles and groups: All women are invited to attend the circles and groups of your choice. Just come!

Mary, Martha Esther Circle meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 10 am in the McMillen Room. They will resume meeting in January. **Joy Circle**, meets on the third Tuesday of the month, 3-5 pm in members' homes. Check with Kerren Brown for more information.

Our new circle, **Daughters of Grace**, meets in McMillen Room at 6:30 on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. They are reading a book on the Women of the Bible. Contact Susan Thronson. **Sew And Sews**, meet every Tuesday in the McMillen Room at 10 until 12. Bring a sandwich if you want to stay for lunch. We encourage those interested in quilting, crocheting, knitting and just plain visiting and sharing. **The Prayer Shawl Ministry** is resuming; we need more knitters and crocheters. **Book Club**, meets the 3rd Friday, in the library, at 10:30. Contact Judy Leonard for a book if interested.

Respectfully submitted,

--Gerry McGuire

MISSION TEAM REPORT

The Mission Team prepared and served about 60 hot meals for the People's Kitchen on September 30th. Extra casseroles were taken to 5 Cities Coalition cabins. We were blessed by the number of volunteers who helped with this project.

We took an offering for World Communion Sunday in October, providing scholarships and leadership

development opportunities for international and U.S. racial-ethnic students pursuing advanced degrees.

The fifth Tuesday in December we are responsible for another People's Kitchen luncheon. We are grateful for the volunteers who support us with this project.



Prayer & Praise List

Dear Heavenly Father, I come before You seeking Your divine intervention against sickness.

Lord, I ask that You pour out Your healing power upon me and restore me to full health, in Jesus Name.

Please pray for:

Colton, Ann, Tiffany Tracy, Carmen, Rosario, Ernest, Willy, Jason, John, Mark, Harper, Nathan, Jack, Joe, Bodie, Lee, and Elaine.



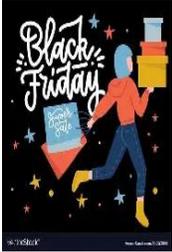
Working with the Chancel Choir has turned out to be absolute pleasure! Most of you are already aware of this ministry but there has been a slight change that we are all excited about.

On the third Sunday of the month, the choir loft will be open to all who would like to assist in leading worship. We will not be singing an anthem on those particular Sundays, so I wanted to invite all who have a heart for worship to join us. No rehearsal needed! Just be in the loft around 10:20AM.

We would love to see you!



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>Abbreviation Legend</p> <p>CH-Criswell Hall HR-Handbell Room #115 K-Kitchen L-Library Room #123 MMR-McMillen Room #113 PL-Parking Lot PS-Pastor's Study S-Sanctuary</p>						
<p>2 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service</p>	<p>3 6PM Gerry's Quilting CH</p>	<p>4 9AM Senior Exercise CH 10AM Sew' N Sews MMR 11AM Chair Yoga CH 1PM trustees 7PM MMR 1PM Adult Bible Study CH 5PM Bell Choir HB 7:30 PM Big Band CH</p>	<p>5 9AM Church Work Morning Fellowship Ministry 10AM L Worship Team 5:30PM Pastors Office</p>	<p>6 10AM Holiday Boutique setup MMR 5PM Bell Choir HR 6:30PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal S</p>	<p>7 Holiday Boutique 9AM-7PM</p>	<p>1 Youth Program 3 PM Adults 4PM Youth, 5PM Burrito Bar See's Candy Fundraiser November 1st thru 30th</p>
<p>9 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service Holiday Boutique After Services</p>	<p>10 6PM Gerry's Quilting CH</p>	<p>11 9AM Senior Exercise CH 10AM Sew' N Sews MMR 11AM Chair Yoga CH 5PM Bell Choir HB 7:30 PM Big Band CH</p>	<p>12 9AM Church Work Morning 10AM Steering Committee Mission Team 1:30PM Daughter's of Grace 6:30PM MMR</p>	<p>13 9AM Senior Exercise CH 11AM Chair Yoga CH 5PM Bell choir HR 6:30PM Chancel Choir S</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 10:45AM Turtle & Tortoise Rescue</p>
<p>16 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service New Member Class 12PM Noisy Offering From November 16th thru 23rd</p>	<p>17 6PM Gerry's Quilting CH</p>	<p>18 9AM Senior Exercise 10AM Sew' N Sews MMR 11AM Chair Yoga CH 1PM Adult Bible Study CH 1:30PM Finance, Lib 3PM Joy Circle 5PM Bell Choir HB 7:30 PM Big Band CH</p>	<p>19 9AM Church Work Morning Church Council 2PM MMR</p>	<p>20 9AM Senior Exercise CH 10:30AM Staff Parish PS 11AM Chair Yoga CH Children's Center Board 3:30PM MMR 5PM Bell Choir HR 6:30PM Chancel Choir S</p>	<p>21 UWF Book Club 10:30AM L</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23/30 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service 30 Advent Crafts Workshop after 2nd service</p>	<p>24 6PM Gerry's Quilting CH Communications 4:30PM L</p>	<p>25 9AM Senior Exe CH 10AM Sew' N Sew 11AM Chair Yoga CH 1PM Adult Bible CH 3PM Joy Circle 5PM Bell Choir HB 7:30 PM Big Band Charge Con 6:30-8:30PM</p>	<p>26 9AM Church Work Morning</p>		<p>28</p> 	<p>29 Hanging Of the Greens 10AM</p>

Christmas Concert

The Friendly Neighborhood



Big Band

Guest Vocalists

Tricia Stewart Dave Anderson

Sunday, December 7th, 2025

at 3:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
of Arroyo Grande

275 North Halcyon, Arroyo Grande

FREE Admission - Donations Welcome

Donations Benefit First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

Help AGUMCC Turn Candy into Cash

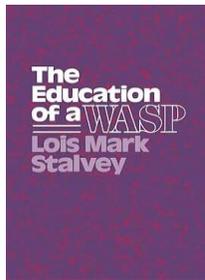
Orders Begin: November 1, 2025

Deadline: November 30, 2025

Order See's Candies over \$75 and receive FREE Delivery anywhere in the United States. Questions Call: Maddy at 805-481-2223



November UWF Book Club Selection: The Education of a WASP



The UWF Book Club readers will discuss a memoir, The Education of a WASP, by Lois Stalvey at the Friday, November 21st meeting at 10:30 A.M. in the church library. This timely account of a white woman's experience with racism in America in the 1960s reminds us of how much

and how little things have changed. Her reactions to racial incidents in neighborhoods, college campuses, and the workplace cause us to consider the effects of racism today.

We invite you to join us in the book discussion on November 21st. If you need a copy of The Education of a WASP, see Mary Whitson or Judy Leonard.

Liturgists

Date	8:30	10:30
Nov. 02	Joe Brown	Rosslyn Clauson
Nov. 09	Sharon Roemer	Joyce Singleman
Nov. 16	Susan Thronson	Rose Ann Steiner
Nov. 23	Mary Thronson	Judy Leonard
Nov. 30	Debora Bradley	Michelle Richardson

In Loving Memory Of Eva McClure September 25, 2025

Loving Father, we ask for Your blessing upon Eva McClure's soul, so that she may find eternal rest in Your Heavenly Kingdom.

Surround her with Your light and love, and grant her peace and joy in Your presence. May she be reunited with those who have gone before and experience the fullness of Your glory

AMEN



TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study

Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent

Meets on

Tuesdays at 1:00 pm in Criswell Hall

The Group is currently studying

"Breaking The Code"

by Bruce Metzger

Books are available from Nancy.

All are welcome to join us!



The Youth Christmas Party/Progressive Dinner will be on **Saturday, December 6th**. The fun starts at the church at 4:00pm in Crisswell Hall and ends about 8:30 with dessert and a White Elephant Gift (funny gift that costs no more than \$10) exchange at the last location. All students currently attending 6th-12th grade and adult volunteers who have been attending the youth volunteer training times with Pastor Tim are invited. A completed Medical Release Form is required from each student planning to attend. For more information, please contact Pastor Wes or Pastor Tim. Come and have fun and dinner.

Fellowship Ministry

We will not have movie nights during the months of November and December due to the holidays

A visit to the **Tortoise Reserve** is arranged for November 15 at 11 am. Meet at the church at or 10:30 to carpool. It is free but a donation is well appreciated.

November 30th is the **Advent Workshop**. A light lunch will be served after second service, followed by Christmas crafts. This event gets us off to a great start to the Christmas season. We have at least 10 different crafts. Sign up this Sunday at the connection counter. \$10 per person or \$15 per family.

Submitted by, Gerry McGuire

CAROLYN RUSSELL RETIREMENT PARTY

TOUR OF 1893 PRICE HOUSE



Thank you, Carolyn Russell, for your many years of hard work and dedication to our Children's Moment and Sunday School.

Alternative Christmas



Alternative Christmas was a success! Funds were raised to support the 5Cities Homeless Coalition, Heifer International and our overseas Covenant Missionaries. Thank you all!

Poinsettia Order Form



This is your opportunity to help provide poinsettias to brighten our church and the lives of our shut-in members.

Please print your dedication clearly.

Thank you for your generosity.

IN HONOR or IN MEMORY OF
(please circle one)

Each poinsettia plant is \$15.

Payments should be made to FUMCAG

Memo line on check or envelope: Poinsettias

Please put payment and this completed form in an offering envelope and place the offering plate or drop your envelope with form at the church office by Monday morning, December 12.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

Office use only:

Cash _____ Check # _____ Amount _____

Meet Our CHURCH STAFF

Church Office: 805-481-2692

E-mail: fumcag@yahoo.com

Website:

www.WorshipWeekly.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/fumcag

Pastor: Rev. Wesley Thompson

E-mail: wes.thompson@gmail.com

Office Administrator:

Blanca Placencia

Webmaster: Jamie Foster

Children's Education Director:

Position open

Interim Choir Director:

Tricia Stewart

Praise Team Director:

Mike Clark

Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler

Handbell Choir Director:

Leonard Lutz

Worship Video Editor:

Susan Thronson

Covenant Missionaries:

Katherine Parker, Nepal

Florence Ogugua Mefor, Nigeria

Bishop:

Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank

District Superintendent:

Rev. Garth Gilliam

Children's Center (Preschool):

Director: Madrigale Quaglino

E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 805-381-2223

HOSPITALITY HOSTS

- Nov 02** Finance
Nov 09 Nominating Committee
Nov 16 Worship Team
Nov 23 Children's Center
Nov 30 United Women of Faith

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH FLOWERS



Do you enjoy the beautiful flower arrangements placed on the altar on Sunday? Dates are available for flower dedications in upcoming months. Your floral tributes will be placed on the altar for both Sunday morning services and can be picked up after the second service or on Monday during office hours.

The cost for altar flowers is \$30.
Contact Blanca in the Church Office



- 11/02 Alexander Thompson
11/07 Wes Thompson
11/07 Patrick Harvey
11/15 Jim Harvey
11/16 Rosemary MacKeen
11/21 Helen Gugeler
11/23 Christina Cuddy
11/23 Adrian Paredes
11/29 Del Hollinger

**Did we miss your birthday?
If so, please contact the
church office and we will be
glad to add your birthday to
our monthly birthday list.**

LEGACY GIVING

Personal Philanthropy brochures from the California-Pacific United Methodist Foundation are available at the Connections Table in the Narthex. They discuss ways to create your own personal or family legacy. You may contact them directly at 626-568-7347 or on the web at www.cpumf.org.

NEW CAMPUS WI-FI NETWORK FUMC GUEST

Password: united methodist church
(all lower case with spaces)

Hope, Joy & Love Rising



First United Methodist Church

of Arroyo Grande

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



Visit us on the web at: WorshipWeekly.com

Find us on Facebook at United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

www.facebook.com/fumcag

November 2025

Upcoming Events

- Sat. Nov. 1 Youth Program 3PM Adults, 4PM Youth, 5PM Fried Chicken
- Fri. Nov. 7 Holiday Boutique, 9AM-7PM
- Sat. Nov. 8 Holiday Boutique, 9AM-2PM
- Sun. Nov. 9 Holiday Boutique, After services
- Sat. Nov. 15 Angel Tree, 10:00AM
- Sat. Nov. 15 Turtle & Tortoise Rescue, Carpool from church at 10:30
- Sun. Nov. 16 & 23 Noisy Offering (spare change for Turkeys)
- Sat. Nov. 1-30 See's Candy Fundraiser
- Sat. Nov. 29 Hanging of the Greens 10:00am
- Sun. Nov. 30 Advent Crafts Workshop after 2nd service
- Sat. Dec. 6 Youth Program, Progressive Dinner
- Sun. Dec. 7 Friendly Big Band Concert 3:00PM
- Thu. Dec. 11 Children's Center Christmas Program
- Sat. Dec. 13 Christmas Extravaganza 3-5PM
- Mon. Dec. 29 People's Kitchen Food Prep 1:30,
- Tues. Dec. 30 People's Kitchen Food Distribution 11AM carpool from church

Mission Statement

of the First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

The First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande is a joyful, active and fun-loving faith community. We worship on Sunday mornings and offer opportunities for Christian growth, fellowship, health and increased well-being all week long. Members represent a wide range of theological and political views and commit to treating each other with love and respect in the midst of differences. We nurture spiritual growth and a deeper understanding of God's love in Christ as we work together to spread the love of God in our community and in the world.