



Cast-A-Net

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

OCTOBER 2026

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



Pastor's Page

In 1740, John Wesley wrote a Sermon called "A Catholic Spirit." Based on 2 Kings 10:15, this sermon asks, "Is your heart right, as my heart is with your heart?"



The sermon reminded us that true unity does not mean everyone thinks the same way, but that we can still love alike.

A catholic spirit means a universal, open-hearted Christian spirit. It is about loving everyone – friend or stranger, person or opponent- while staying firm in your faith. It means we do not have to abandon our core beliefs or become indifferent to truth. Having a big heart does not mean having a blank mind. When we live with a catholic spirit, we give others the liberty of thought. They have the same freedom to think, interpret, and worship. It means we have universal love. We live this out by showing our compassion stretches beyond our own local group, church, or social circle, and by loving and caring for all people. It means we work together even when Methodist, politics, or church traditions differ; we join hands to do good and advance God's work whenever possible.

Wesley emphasized that if your heart is right with God, he'd take your hand, and that we don't need to share every opinion to be brothers and sisters in Christ. True love is not lazy indifference. True love is a deep, steady grace. It is allowing your heart to stretch wide enough to embrace anyone made in the image of God.

Though we may not think alike, can we not love alike? This question invites the audience to feel hopeful and reassured that love can unify us beyond our differences, which is essential for inspiring unity.

We as Methodists strive to love like this. We aim to create a safe, welcoming space where all people can experience God's love, fostering trust and comfort within our community.

Do no harm,
Do good,
Stay in love with God.

Do no harm: be mindful of our words, actions, and overall impact so we do not injure others, ourselves, or creation. It involves avoiding evil, resisting oppression, and practicing care.

Do good: moves past simply avoiding bad behavior to taking intentional, positive action. It encourages acts of kindness, charity, mercy, and serving those in need whenever possible.

Stay in Love with God: focuses on nurturing your spiritual relationship with God through regular practices like prayer, worship, and Scripture, which provide the moral strength and wisdom to follow the first two rules.

May we continue to work together to provide a place where people feel safe so they can experience God's grace, forgiveness, transformation, and liberation.

Rev. Wesley Thompson

STAFF APPRECIATION SUNDAY - Aug. 23

Celebrated with a beach theme



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY - Sept. 13



PLANTEL NURSERY TOUR - Sept. 4



DANA ADOBE OPEN HOUSE - Sept. 12



Youth Group Empty Bowls Fundraiser for Five Cities Homeless Coalition



Yet another wonderful meeting for the Youth Group took place on Saturday, August 29th, in the beautiful home of Evelyn and Deb Bradley. We had lots of fun painting bowls and enjoying delicious pizza, which we washed down with some refreshing lemonade! There were also games like Cornhole and Jenga to be played while we waited for our bowls to dry. Participants in the bowl painting created beautiful designs; from sunsets to watermelons and everything in between. I think it's safe to say that everyone enjoyed their time at the event and felt welcome to join in all the fun that was to be had. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers and hosts of this event! ---- Daisy Paredes



Youth group decorated 32 bowls. The bowls are used to serve soup provided by local restaurants at the 5Cities Homeless Coalition Empty Bowls Luncheon fundraiser on Thursday, October 1st at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. They will also be available at a "Pop-Up Party" Saturday October 10th at St. John's Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$25. Bowls may be available at our Alternative Christmas on Sunday, October 25 after both services.

FREE GOLF LESSON FOR YOUTH GROUP

PGA professional Jim Delaby has opened his schedule to teach our youth golf and golf etiquette on November 21st from 2pm to 4pm at Monarch Dunes golf course. He will supply golf clubs. The only requirement is to wear close-toed shoes with good traction (tennis shoes) and athletic clothes. Polo shirts are good but not necessary, no jeans.



This is very generous of Jim to do this for our youth. He normally travels throughout the country doing high end intensive golf lessons. Jim is very good with beginners and has a background in special education. He is a devout Christian and talks freely about his faith. We are blessed to have this opportunity for our youth. This will be a fun day. and preparation for a possible upcoming golf tournament fund raiser.

Please sign up at a Youth Group meeting or Sunday School. Sign-up sheet is under the cross in the Youth room.

UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Sat. Oct. 17 Youth Group, 4pm, Dinner 5:30pm

Sat. Nov. 14 Youth Group, 4pm, Dinner 5:30pm

Sat. Nov. 21 Free Golf Lessons for Youth Group at Monarch Dunes Golf Course, 2-4pm



Youth Group brought bowls to take advantage of a Slurpee promotion at 7-11 on September 19 meeting.



United
Women
in Faith

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.

At the August 22 Bingo there was lots of Pizza, due to a mistake at Dominos. Lots of prizes too! It was suggested we start at 4pm and go to 7pm as some serious players felt there was not enough time to eat Pizza and play Bingo. So next time we will eat and play from 4 to 7pm.

Saturday, September 26 was the Women in Faith Retreat, "Rooted and Renewed". 21 women from this church and neighboring North District churches joined together in fellowship and conversation. We were prayed for, to be encouraged and challenged by the Holy Spirit that we would become more rooted in Christ and renewed. We had an opportunity to talk and get to know fellow participants, including some we knew from our own congregation. We had a delicious box lunch, followed by some easy and rewarding craft activities. As we closed we desired to get together again with the women from the other churches; Trinity Methodist Church of Los Osos and San Luis Methodist church. Each wanting to grow their group.

We thank Diane Garner, North District president, and Kim Smith, communications coordinator, for traveling the distance to lead this amazing retreat.

Craft workshops have begun on Tuesdays. Kits are available to pick up and take home now. They are located on the table in Criswell Hall in the over-hang area. More will be added. Help us out. You can come on Tuesdays (between 10am and 1pm) and get instructions for the kits. It's a good time to learn new skills, including crocheting. We have coffee, tea and cookies too. If we get more people to help, we could expand to Thursday. Last week we did wreaths, turkeys, and crocheting.

Boutique Time November 6,7,8. We will need help from all to make this the best, ever. The clipboards are on the card table in Criswell Hall, to sign up to help. We will need help pricing, organizing, displaying, baking, and candy making November 3,4 and 5 and cleanup on the 8. We need volunteers to work the boutique.

Respectfully submitted, Gerry McGuire

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

September 4th Plantel Nursery Tour and Dana Adobe Heritage Day, Saturday, September 12th, were well attended. Those who attended expressed how much they learned and had a good time.

We have a great variety of tours and events coming up. Keep checking the connections counter to sign up.

Upcoming events:

October 25, Sunday 4PM, Movie is ET, popcorn and refreshments are free.

November 14, Saturday John Lindsey, meteorologist, will do a presentation on El Nino. 10:30.

November 29, Sunday Advent Workshop. 11:30 to 1:30

December 5 Saturday, Holiday Extravaganza 5pm-7pm. Need Talent to volunteer, let us know if you can perform.

December 8, Tuesday & December 17, Thursday 1pm.

Tour of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. Sign up in advance on-line at Diablo web site.

Submitted by Gerry McGuire

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH FOOD OUTREACH

The UWF (United Women in Faith) is collecting donations to support local organizations that help the hungry and homeless.

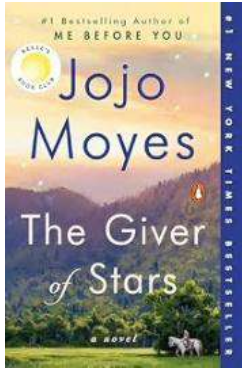
The **Five Cities Christian Women Food Pantry** requests: toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, diapers and dish soap/laundry detergent. It is better to donate money rather than food as they are able to purchase food in bulk that best fits the needs of their clients. Donations may be made to the church or UWF and marked "FOOD PANTRY".

The **5Cities Homeless Coalition** requests:

new underwear, new sweatpants & sweatshirts, new socks, new beanies, jackets, scarves & gloves. bottled water, shelf-stable protein shakes, hygiene items & sunscreen, soft breakfast bars, instant noodles, tuna or chicken pouches, individually packaged snacks.

Donations should be dropped off at the Missions Table in Criswell Hall

October UWF Book Club Selection:



The October book selection, The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes, is a fictional account of Packhorse Librarians in Kentucky during the Depression-era in America. Based on the traveling librarian program developed by Eleanor Roosevelt, it shows the loyalty, tenacity, and passion these young women displayed. No matter the difficult

terrain or opposition along the way, they delivered books to people who had never had access to books or other reading material. This story is entertaining as well as educational.

Everyone is invited to join the discussion on Friday, October 16th at 10:30 A.M. in the church library. See Judy Leonard to borrow a library copy of The Giver of Stars.

THE FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD BIG BAND CONCERT

Sunday, October 4, 3PM
in the Sanctuary



Free Admission -- Donations Welcome
Proceeds benefit our church
Invite your friends!

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of ARROYO GRANDE



2026 CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our new photo member directory may be picked up at the Connections Table in the Narthex or in the Church Office. Members should contact the office if they would like to receive a copy by mail.



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

Advantages of Joining the Choir

- † You never have to worry about what to wear.
- † You have excellent seats and are assured a reserved seat for Christmas and Easter.
- † From your advantageous seat, you can smile at, gawk at, ignore and otherwise enjoy the rest of the people in the congregation.
- † The pastor is nearly always looking the other way.
- † You're in a wonderful spot to see new members.
- † The cost for all these benefits? Just one evening a week.
- † Oh, yes, one more reason to join the choir: You're a leader in the worship experience.

Choir rehearses Wednesdays at 6PM. Check it out!



THE HAND BELL CHOIR IS LOOKING FOR MORE DING-A-LINGS

The Grande Ringers provide beautiful music using hand bells at our services on the third Thursday of each month. Come and join this fun and supportive musical group. Rehearsals are on Tuesday and Thursday from 5pm to 6pm. While reading music is an asset, members have joined and learned to read music on the fly. The ringers are adapting at helping each other learn to play. Feel free to drop in or contact director Leonard Lutz through the church office...

Mission Team

Katherine Parker, our Covenant Missionary in Nepal was safe in California when the disastrous flood hit. She and our Mission Team are asking our congregation to donate to Nepal Flood Relief Efforts through the Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church.



As of 9/13 our generous congregation has donated:
\$1,410 towards Hawaii Flood Relief and
our Mission Team has added an additional \$2,000.
\$1,200 towards Nepal Flood Relief and
our Mission Team will add an additional \$2,000.

Update on the Mandolin

Almost two years ago, our church assisted in obtaining a mandolin for the ecumenical praise band at Valley State Prison in Chowchilla. Due to the inspections and paperwork involved, it took almost a year before it was delivered to the band. Recently we received a note from the band member who first inquired about obtaining the instrument.



I have been playing the mandolin a lot. I play it for church about 6 times a week. We have a lot of different Bible studies and worship services here, we play music before every service and groups - even the Christian 12 step group plays worship music before group, but I don't attend them. It is nice playing the mandolin because it has a distinct sound and I don't feel like competing with other guitar players. They can't play what I'm doing and strumming the mandolin doesn't sound like a guitar. It is such a rare instrument in prison that most people feel endeared to it, and because it is small. I still play guitar, but only when I have to lead worship.

You can tell the congregation I look forward to playing the mandolin for them someday. I wrote a bluegrass tune not too long ago and have been playing every genre - even jazz.

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 W, Alice A, Dorine B, Evelyn B, Harper, Jeff, David, Emilio, Lisa, Myla, Carol, Dennis, Nancy, Barbara, Karl, Salting Family, Robert & Family, Don, Sarah Nancy, Jedediah, Tim, Wendy, Lee, Bert, Cristy & Lamar, Carlos, Jose, Terry, Rosario, Lydia, Nallo, Carmen, People in Nepal, Haitian Refugee.

NEW SOUNDBOARD IN SANCTUARY



We have a new digital soundboard in the Sanctuary. The two old analog soundboards (one for the house sound, one for video service), were starting to wear out. There were problems of noise or interference on some of the channels. The new board will make the sound tech job easier, but please have patience while we adjust and learn the new equipment. There are separate pre-sets for first and second service, so we don't have to adjust settings between services. The one board can control sound for both the house and video. Reverb, compression and effects can be adjusted separately for each channel. With a full digital recording we can edit live (useful if we ever do live streaming) or can go back and edit a recording. This will allow operators to practice adjustments off-line rather than learning by doing during the service. Special thanks to Mike Coho and Paul Roberts for setting up the new board, and Joe Brown and David Bolterman for building the new audio-video center at the back of the sanctuary.

ELT SCHOLARSHIP



ELT Scholarship recipient Ellise Capuno at her first days of clinicals at California State University Bakersfield. She wrote "Thank you so much and God bless",

As many of you may know, the Everett Lee Taylor (ELT) Scholarship was pleased to present \$1,500 to Ellise Capuno, 3rd year Nursing, Cal State Bakersfield and Ian Beard, 4th year undergraduate degree Astronomy, San Diego State. With the help of the Church Council, 3 new first year applicants have been identified as potential ELT awards for the 2027-2028 school year. Donations to this fund are welcome at any time. Simply mark your donation "ELT Scholarship Fund."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A church runs on its volunteers. We are all called to serve and be part of the faith community in some way. Serving is a way to connect with the church and grow spiritually. We all have different talents and spiritual gifts. Pray about where your gifts can serve the church.

Some areas where help is needed:

- Office help: folding, labeling and stamping
- Video camera operator at Sunday services
- Running slides at Sunday services
- Sound board operator at Sunday services
- Greeters and ushers at Sunday services
- Song and liturgy slide creator for 2nd service
- Post events on Social Media
- Singers for the Chancel Choir
- Ringers for the Bell Choir

There are nominated and committee positions also. Please contact Pastor Wes to discuss where you might be able to help out.

Tai Chi and Fast Walking

Tai Chi and Fast Walking is a class being offered on Tuesday and Thursdays.



Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese mind-body practice that features slow, continuous and graceful movements paired with deep breathing. We practice a gentle, low-impact exercise that helps us have better balance, joint and muscle health and relaxation. We use a video by David-Dorian Ross as the instructor. We meet at 9:00 to 10:00 am on Tuesdays. The videos we use are not the 24 Form Tai Chi or the exercises you see on Facebook or other media sites. You can also do Tai Chi sitting down in this class.

The Fast Walking is on Thursdays from 9:00 to 9:40. We do a constant walk for 2 miles with a break after a mile. This is a good start to your day. It increases your heart rate, increases breathing for circulation, and oxygen for your muscles. Your whole body is involved with hands and arms moving as well as your legs. We move up and back, sideways and it is all done indoors. We use a video by Leslie Sansone to lead us. Come give us a try. We are a small, friendly group who will welcome you. See Mary Thronson if you are interested or just show up.



By Mary Thronson - Leader

Wisdom of John Wesley

"A due degree of exercise is indispensably necessary to health and long life."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Abbreviation Legend 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				1 9AM Fast walking& Tai Chi CH 11AM Chair Yoga-CH 5pm Bell Choir Rehearsal Rm#115	2 10AM Knitting & Crocheting Parks & Rec	3
4 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service 3pm Friendly Neighborhood Band Concert	5 6 PM Gerry's Quilt Class-CH	6 9AM Tai Chl 10AMSew&Sews-MMR 11 AM Chair Yoga-CH 5PM Bell Choir Rehearsal Rm#115 7pm Trustees, MMR 7:30pm Big Band Rehearsal, CH	7 9AMChurch Work Morning-CH 10am Fellowship Ministry, L 5:30pm Daughter's of Grace Circle L 5:30pm Worship Team, MMR 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Rm #115	8 9 AM Fast walking & Tai Chi CH 10:30am Staff Parish, MMR 11AM Chair Yoga-CH 11:30am Nominations committee, MMR 5 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal Rm #115	9 10AM Knitting & Crocheting Parks & Rec	10
11 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service	12 6PM Gerry's Quilt Class-CH	13 SAM Tai Chi 10AMSew&Sews-MMR 11 AM Chair Yoga-CH 5PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Big Band Rehearsal, CH	14 9AMChurch Work Morning-CH 10am UWF Steering Committee, L 1:30pm Mission Team MMR 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Rm #115	15 9 AM Fast walking & Tia Chi CH 11 AM Chair Yoga-CH 5 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal Rm #115	16 10AM Knitting & Crocheting Parks & Rec 10:30am UWF Bok Club L	17 Youth Group 3pm Adults, 4pm Youth, 5:30pm Dinner
18 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service	19 6 PM Gerry's Quilt Class-CH	20 9AM Tai Chi 10AMSew&Sews-MMR 11AM Chair Yoga-CH 3pm Joy Circle, 3pm Endowment, CH 5PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm Finance, MMR 7:30pm Big Band Rehearsal, CH	21 9AM Church Work Morning-CH 2pm Church Council, MMR 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Rm #115	22 9 AM Fast walking & Tai Chi CH 11AM Chair Yoga-CH 5pm Bell Choir Rehearsal Rm #115	23 10AM Knitting & Crocheting Parks & Rec	24
25 8:30AM Informal Worship Service 10:30AM Traditional Worship Service 4PM Movie Night ET CH	26 6 PM Gerry's Quilt Class-CH 4:30 Communications L	27 9AM Tai Chi 10AM Sew & Sews-MMR 11 AM Chair Yoga-CH 5PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Big Band Rehearsal, CH	28 9AM Church Work Morning-CH 10am Mary, Martha, Esther Circle, MMR 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Rm #115	29 9 AM Fast walking & Tai Chi CH 11AM Chair Yoga-CH 5 pm Bell Choir rehearsal Rm #115	30 10AM Knitting & Crocheting Parks & Rec	31 

Meet Our CHURCH STAFF

HOSPITALITY HOSTS

October 04 Finance
 October 11 Joy Circle
 October 18 Mary, Martha, Esther
 October 25 Endowment/ELT
 November 01 Mission Team
 November 08 Nomination Committee



Church Office: 805-481-2692

E-mail: fumcag@yahoo.com

Website:

www.WorshipWeekly.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/fumcag

You Tube Worship Videos:

https://tinyurl.com/yc6e32x5

Pastor: Rev. Wesley Thompson

E-mail: wes.thompson@gmail.com

Office Administrator:

Blanca Estela Placencia

Webmaster: Jamie Foster

Choir Director:

Tricia Stewart

Praise Team Director:

Mike Clark

Pianist/Keyboard: Dennis Eiler

Handbell Choir Director:

Leonard Lutz

Bookkeeper: Kelli Stein

Worship Video Editor:

Susan Thronson

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



10/05 Daisey Paredes
 10/05 Roger Sperling
 10/06 Marcella Roan
 10/13 Lorie Ford
 10/13 Ruth Mandac
 10/16 Ian Beard
 10/20 Carina Mendez
 10/22 Rose Ann Steiner
 10/29 Lila Anderson
 10/29 Rebeca Avila
 10/30 Katelyn Thompson
 10/31 Mary Hawkins

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.

Covenant Missionaries:

Katherine Parker, Nepal

Florence Mefor, Zimbabwe

Bishop:

Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank

District Superintendent:

Rev. Garth Gilliam

Liturgists

Date	8:30	10:30
October. 04	Sharon Roemer	Carolyn Anderson
October. 11	Joe Brown	Joyce Singelman
October. 18	Mary Thronson	Judy Leonard
October. 05	Deb Bradley	Rosslyn Clauson

Bring your entire family

**Nursery care,
 Children's
 Sunday School
 and Youth Group
 is available every
 Sunday at 10:30
 Service.**



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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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

October 2026

Upcoming Events

- | | | |
|----------|---------|--|
| Sun | Oct. 4 | Friendly Neighborhood Band Concert, 3PM in the Sanctuary |
| Sat. | Oct. 17 | Youth Group, Adults 3pm, Youth 4pm |
| Sun. | Oct. 25 | Alternative Christmas Boutique, after both services. |
| Sun. | Oct. 25 | Free Movie Night, ET, 4pm |
| Mon. | Oct. 26 | Little Pink Houses of Hope dinner. |
| Fri-Sun. | Nov 6-8 | Holiday Boutique 9am-2pm, Friday & Saturday. Sunday after both services |
| Sat. | Nov. 14 | John Lindsey presentation on El Nino, 10:30. |
| Sat. | Nov. 14 | Youth Group, Adults 3pm, Youth 4pm |
| Sun. | Nov. 15 | Boutique after both services. |
| Sat. | Nov. 21 | Free Golf Lessons for Youth Group at Monarch Dunes Golf Course, 2-4pm |
| Sat. | Dec. 5 | Holiday Extravaganza Talent Show, 5-7pm. |
| Sun. | Dec. 6 | Friendly Neighborhood Band Concert, 3pm. |
| Tue. | Dec. 8 | Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, 1pm. Advance on-line signup required. |
| Sat. | Dec. 12 | Youth Group, Adults 3pm, Youth 4pm |
| Thu, | Dec. 17 | Alternate date: Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, 1pm. Advance on-line |

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.