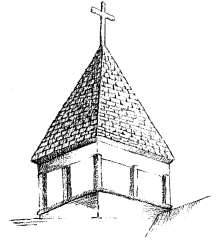


LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

April 16, 2007

Seeds of a Sower

During Holy Week I received an unexpected Easter gift from a most unlikely source – my insurance company! A few years ago I had been involved in a fender- bender car accident. Fortunately there were no injuries to humans; my car suffered the major damage. Although I was not cited, it was charged to my insurance. There is a forgiveness provision in California law which has been found to apply to my situation. On the notice we received, Mark wrote in red letters, “You have been forgiven!”

Just like dandelions pop up in the most surprising places, so God’s grace and love can be found in the most unpredictable circumstances. That’s the great news of Easter – God’s love is stronger than any forces which threaten to diminish it. Jesus commissions his disciples to be instruments of that good news. As Easter people, may we watch for opportunities to spring up like dandelions, not in an annoying, bothersome way, but rather as gifts of grace, hospitality, hope, and new life for one another.

My heart is overflowing with gratitude for the multiple efforts to make our Easter celebration so joyous. Thank you for your contributions to the Easter brunch, egg hunt, lilies and garden flowers, music ministry, and worship experiences. Several persons were involved in our church workday and some have taken on special projects to enhance the look and cleanliness of the facility. You are generous and unselfish in sharing of your various gifts that the ministry of Christ might continue through us. Time and time again this congregation offers warm hospitality to guests and newcomers. Your positive, cheerful spirit reflects the joy of the Christian life.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

A yellow rectangular graphic with a white circle in the center. The circle contains the text "Cinco de Mayo" in a cursive font. Surrounding the circle are several stylized chili peppers in green and orange. The graphic is positioned behind the invitation text.

You're Invited to the M&Ms' CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

WHAT: M&M's Potluck - - Please bring a Mexican dish or treat to share
WHERE: BROOKVIEW CLUBHOUSE, 1201 Monument Blvd., Concord
WHEN: MAY 5TH AT 6 PM
WHO: Virginia Black, Celeste Graham and Carol Slatten, hostesses
Drinks, plates and eating utensils will be provided
WHY: Fellowship, food, fun
RSVP AND QUESTIONS: Call Virginia at 825-2591 or Carol at 676-7525

THANK YOU!

The United Methodist Women put together over 100 Easter Baskets at our March meeting. These baskets were then distributed to needy children by the Food Bank. Thank you to all of those people who contributed to this very special project in any way.

AND THANK YOU!

Thank you to Cheen Chow, her crew, and those who provided food for our Easter Brunch. Everything was delicious! Thank you also to those who shared their plants and arranged the Easter Garden. It was beautiful! Special thanks to Linda Berti who acquired all of the lilies and spring flowers for the display in the Sanctuary. Lovely!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – UMW EVENTS

There are two events coming up that you will want to attend. The United Methodist Women will gather on May 3, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. for a meeting in the Fireside Room. Renee Emerson will be our speaker. Bring your own sandwich. Coffee, fruit and cookies will be provided.

Janet Sategna has offered her beautiful garden for our June 7th picnic once again. The program will be "Grandma's Apron". Plan to share a special apron with the group on that day. It might be one handed down through the generations, one made by a friend, or one that you created yourself. Be ready to tell us the story of your apron. More information will be provided in the future. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Flood at 283-3409.

“Put Your Money Where Your Heart Is”

Join us for a special educational workshop in the Fireside Room after coffee hour on Sunday, April 22nd. The workshop will be conducted by Carol Lu Zischke, of Northwestern Mutual Financial Network. Topics to be discussed are:

- 3 steps to financial freedom
- Solutions for every stage of your life
- Creating a plan that's right for you

If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, call 296-5168 to reserve your place, or e-mail carol.zischke@nmfn.com. Refreshments will be served.

LUMC Men's Breakfast

East Bay Regional Parks: Our Local Treasures in Word and Image

Presented by Stu Selland

Saturday, May 5th at 8:00 a.m., in the Fireside Room

Stu Selland is a commercial photographer and Bay Area native. Having recently moved his studio from San Francisco to his home in Lafayette, he has pursued a wide range of photographic endeavors, including the completion of a M.A. degree in Liberal Studies at St. Mary's College. For his final project he produced *The East Bay Regional Parks, A Public Treasure*.

Stu says, "I have lived in the Bay Area all my life and never seemed to get to the parks. But once I began to investigate these wonderful places so close to home I learn and see more flora and fauna than I ever dreamed existed." Stu now walks the East Bay Regional Parks on a regular basis, finding exciting and new places to venture.

Enjoy a multimedia presentation and be inspired to enjoy the beauty around us!



VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL
JULY 30 – AUGUST 3

Around and About LUMC . . .

Sue and Don Kibby have completed their move to Arizona. On April 1 they were recognized as "Methodists of the Month" for their contributions to the congregation over the years. We will miss them but they have found a United Methodist Church in Green Valley as their new spiritual home. Their address is 499 W. Moorwood St., Green Valley, AZ 85614-5978.

On Sunday, March 25 it was a joy to celebrate the sacrament of baptism for three persons. Dominique and Juliette Eyl are participating in the confirmation class. Dominique is a freshman at Acalanes, where she is on the cheerleading squad. Juliette is a seventh grader at Stanley. We also received their parents, Kevin and Marlou Eyl into membership of the church. All the family are avid tennis players!

We also baptized Nathaniel Griffin-Yeh, four months old! He is the son of Brian Yeh and Nicole Griffin; the nephew of Rene and Henry Kim, and the cousin of Harrison and Kennedy Kim.

On Sunday, April 15 we shared in the baptism of Connor, Morgan, and Anna Davis. Connor is completing the eighth grade at Stanley. Morgan is in the seventh grade. Anna is a student at Springhill. Their parents are Steve Davis and Caroline Sjostedt Davis.

On April 15 we also welcomed into membership Ron and Carolyn Kain, new residents of Pleasant Hill. They are transferring their membership from First UMC, Golden, Colorado. They have chosen to retire in the area close to family members. Ron has completed a long career with Ball Corp. Carolyn brings a marvelous gift of hospitality and service.

Understanding Progressive Christianity

An approach to Christianity that is inclusive, innovative and informed

Keynote speaker: Fred C. Plumer, President

The Center for Progressive Christianity www.tcpc.org

Saturday, May 5, 2007

9:00-11:00 a.m. and 2:00-4:00 p.m.

A free will offering will be taken to defray expenses

First United Methodist Church of Napa

625 Randolph St. (between Franklin and 5th)

Napa, CA (707) 253-1411

www.napaumc.org

Spring Cleaning at Garden Park Apartments

Sunday, May 20 1-4 pm

Garden Park Apartments on Lisa Lane in Pleasant Hill offer permanent, affordable housing to formerly homeless persons. LUMC is a member of Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH). We have furnished one of the apartments and offer financial support.

On May 20, 20-25 volunteers are needed to clean up the grounds. Duties include clean-up, weeding, planting, digging, trimming, and staining the new stairs. We will work alongside our tenants to spruce up the property. Please bring gloves, buckets and any other needed tools.

RSVP to Julie Mason, Volunteer Coordinator, at 677-0680

Summer Church Camps

Our California-Nevada Annual Conference offers several United Methodist church camps for children through adults. Here's a taste of what's offered this summer:

Children's Camps

Toyon Kids Camp will look for Jesus at the beach, in trees... July 15-20

Super Kid Camp celebrates Friends Forever July 22-28

Junior High Camps

Alive Now! With daily hikes at Donner Mine Camp June 24-29

Super Camp offers swimming, hiking, star watches, & more... July 15-21

Camp Quest at Monte Toyon with climbing wall! July 22-27

Senior High Camps

Lodestar Senior High Camp July 29-Aug. 4

Senior High Backpack Camp in Lake Tahoe Area Aug. 5-11

Adult and Family Camps

Shasta Family Camp July 28-Aug. 3

Adult & Family Camp at Silver Spur June 17-24

Special Needs Camp

Camp Explore for mentally & physically challenged persons June 22-25

Hosts Sought for International Students

S.W.I.F.T. stands for Student of the World Invitation to Friendship and Travel. Founded in 1988, this organization enriches lives through cross-cultural exchanges. From June 28-July 26 several students from Spain will be in our area. Their program includes ESL classes at LUMC church campus and afternoon tours of the area. Host families are being sought for these students, ages 14-18 years. More information is available at www.swiftusa.org. A representative will be at the Fellowship Time after the 10:30 service on April 22 if you are interested. This is not a program endorsed by LUMC or the United Methodist Church; simply an organization that occasionally rents rooms in our facility.

MAY Birthdays



2 Paul Persons	19 Stephanie Schroter	27 Gilbert Vieira
6 Jeanette Shearer	21 Michelle Doughty	28 Martha Gerringer
Daniel Zhang	Richard Walter	Kennedy Kim
7 Maureen Straw	Daniel Warner	Brendan Rigger
9 Sarah Warner	22 Sande Hubbs	29 Christine Chia
10 Martha Cervantes	24 Victor Smith	Nancy Sanders
11 Nicole Zhang	Diane Viera	Greg Ward
15 Jordan Rigger	25 Kelly Noah	30 Maddy Grubman
Janet Sategna	26 Madeleine	31 Ken Barton
Mark Sawdon	Trouerback	Carol Lu Zischke
16 Pat Stull		

MAY Wedding Anniversaries



6 Jane George and Steve Lahey
7 Lissa and Mark Heptig
13 Jackie and Mark Wendland
29 Kelly and Peter Hartshorn
29 Lori and Mark Sawdon

LUMC Women are Gathering!

Wednesday, May 9

7:00-9:00 p.m.

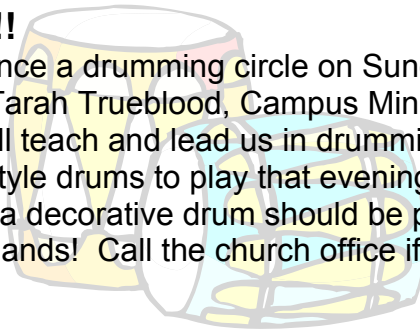
Maggie Mae Lounge

Our Guest Speaker is Connie Van Berkel, the author of a new book called, **Choose High Road Victories: For Christian Women in the Workplace.** Connie grew up as a child at LUMC. She is the sister-in-law of Jeanette Shearer - and Jeanette gives her a hearty endorsement. Connie will address how we can live our Christian faith in the workplace, community, and our daily lives.

We'll have a time of sharing, refreshments, and Connie's message. Perhaps this is the beginning of a new women's group for LUMC. RSVPs would be helpful. Call the church office, 284-4765, or email Pastor Lori at sawdon2@pacbell.net.

Seeking Congo Drums!!

Our youth will experience a drumming circle on Sunday, April 22nd at their youth group meeting. Rev. Tarah Trueblood, Campus Minister at Wesley Foundation, UC Berkeley, will teach and lead us in drumming circles. We need a few more African or Cuban style drums to play that evening. Do you have a drum we can borrow? Even a decorative drum should be played so the skin on the head is oiled by human hands! Call the church office if you have one we can borrow for the evening.



Church Sign We want to upgrade the church layout plaque on the outside corner of Fellowship Hall. Is there a graphic artist who would volunteer for this? Contact Vic Smith – 376-6750, or Pastor Lori.

LUMC'S ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

FRIDAY, MAY 18 AND SATURDAY, MAY 19 - 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

PREVIEW PARTY for CHURCH FAMILY THURS. EVE. May 17 5:30 -7:00 p.m.

PLAN TO BE A PART! Here's how - indicate as many ways as you would like to be involved! Set-up times will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Come for the amount of time that fits your schedule!) We hope to be all set up by noon Thursday, so bring those items in as soon as possible in the week!

_____ will donate items

_____ can pick-up items

_____ can help with set-up _____ Mon. _____ Tues. _____ Wed. _____ Thurs.
_____ AM _____ PM

_____ can provide lunch for the all day workers _____ Mon. _____ Tues, _____ Wed.

_____ can provide appetizers for Thursday Evening Preview Party

_____ can make punch/coffee - supervise refreshment table Thursday eve.

_____ will plan to attend Thursday's Preview Party

(\$5 per person - workers receive Comp ticket)

_____ can help with the SALE _____ Fri _____ Sat _____ AM _____ PM

(This year we plan to have the SALE also during Friendship Time
Sunday Morn. for church families)

_____ can help with take down Sunday after sale closes

(Please fill out this form, drop it in the offering plate, or turn it in to the church office)

NAME _____ Phone _____

MANY THANKS TO ANY AND ALL WHO CAN BE A PART OF THIS
FUNDRAISING PROJECT FOR OUR CHURCH'S MISSION.

If you have any questions, call Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	The Reverend Lori Sawdon
Pastor e-mail.....	Sawdon2@pacbell.net
Director of Music Ministry.....	Ronald Sutherland
Organist & Keyboard/Pianist.....	Ruth Onstadt
Youth Director	Judy Stillman
Intern for Youth.....	Terry Miller
Office Administrator.....	Lorri Sullivan
Joyful Beginnings Preschool Director.....	Dot Feist
Custodian.....	Jason Cano

TOWER NOTES

Editor.....	Ginny Cowden
Computer Formatting.....	Tom & Mary Henderson
Mailing.....	Fran Smith and Evelyn Clark

TOWER NOTES DEADLINE

2nd & 4th Thursday by Noon – Next Deadline **Thursday, April 26 , 2007**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

Telephone....	925-284-4765
Fax.....	925-284-5170
E-Mail.....	lumc@pacbell.net
Web Site.....	www.thelumc.org
