

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

May 13, 2007

SEEDS OF A SOWER

We are approaching the completion of my third year as your pastor on June 30. When I arrived and listened to your hopes and dreams for the congregation, a common theme was to reach more people in order that they might experience Christ's love. The good news is that we are moving toward that dream!

Here are some statistics from recent years:

Year	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>4/07</u>
Average Worship Attendance	141	146	149	181
Membership	269	283	284	307
Apportionments Paid	50%	100%	100%	54% budgeted

In spite of a staff reduction (the part-time Director of Christian Education ended in Dec. 2004), the congregation has continued to grow, thanks to an active team of lay leaders who take their role seriously and fulfill their obligations with joy and expertise! I appreciate the collegiality the church leaders have with one another and with me. There is a genuine respect for the various gifts and insights each person brings to the leadership of the congregation. Healthy communication patterns contribute to our teamwork.

We are blessed with a vital youth ministry that nurtures middle school and high school youth at critical times in their lives. A large team of Sunday School teachers and helpers provides Christian spiritual formation for our children and youth. Our music ministry has taken on some new dimensions under Ronald Sutherland's leadership this year. Ronald has offered special music and song leadership at our 8:30 service, enhancing that worship experience. Joyful Beginnings Preschool is a daily outreach to the community. Vacation Bible School is a significant ministry for our congregation and community. There are always areas for growth, among them intentional systems for following up with newcomers, adult education, and small groups.

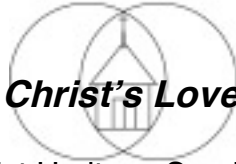
Most significantly, behind the numbers above are people, hopefully people whose lives are being changed in positive ways as they experience Christ's love through our ministry together. In the end, spiritual growth, not numerical growth, is our mission and purpose. Through a culture of hospitality, the valuing of relationships, a vision of mission, and the love of God, we trust that we will grow in quality and depth.

Thanks be to God!

Pastor Lori

ALL CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE!

The Rummage Sale is Friday and Saturday May 18 and 19 with a Church Preview Sale on Thursday eve with the wrap-up Sale after church on Sunday!



Experiencing Christ's Love through Worship

Sunday, May 20 United Methodist Heritage Sunday
Celebrating the 300th Anniversary of Charles Wesley's Birth
Charles, brother of John, wrote over 6,000 hymn texts illuminating the theology of Methodists!

Sunday, May 27 Pentecost Sunday – The Birthday of the Church
Acts 2:1-21 Wear red, orange, or yellow to represent the flames of the Holy Spirit!

Sunday, June 3 Trinity Sunday with Holy Communion
Recognition of Graduates

Sunday, June 10 Music Ministry Sunday

Sunday, July 8 Jazz in July at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall
Featuring the Kurt Ribak Quartet, offering soulful, eclectic and accessible original jazz!
8:30 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary



Do you have someone graduating soon? Please let the church office know the name of your graduate, name of high school or college, future plans, degrees, majors, etc. We will be honoring those graduates in the coming weeks.



AROUND ABOUT LUMC

We sorrow, but not as those without hope, with **Henry Lennstrom**, upon the death of his brother, Charles. Nancy and Henry attended his memorial service in Washington on May 6.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Regular classes will continue through the end of June.

Through July and August children of ages K-5th grades will be combined in one class for a variety of activities in Room 7. The preschool group will continue to have class in room 1 with more playground time.

Those who taught all year will have a "summer break" while other parents and church members will help the Sunday school groups on a rotating basis. Please call Barbara Levander, 284-7687 to be part of this effort.



M&M'S PROGRESSIVE DINNER May 26, 5:30 p.m.



The Cowden's are planning a progressive dinner starting at Julia and David White's home with hors d'oeuvres at 5:30 PM. We will progress to the home of Ginny and Doug Cowden for the main course and we will end the evening with dessert at the home of Mary and Tom Henderson. Please call Mary Henderson for your food assignment and questions: 283-0576.



MEMORIALS

The handicap parking spaces in front of the church were competed with funds from the **Helen Parrish** and **John Thompson Memorials**. We thank the friends and families who donated to these memorials to be able to complete this project.

Thanks to Dale Newcomb for the many hours of work it took him to complete the project.

**SAVE THE DATE!!
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**



All women of the Church are invited to join with the United Methodist Women for a picnic lunch on Thursday, June 7 at 11:00 a.m. We will gather at the home of Janet Sategna, 566 Arrowhead Drive, Lafayette. The program will be "Grandma's Apron". Plan to show an apron to the group and be ready to tell us the story of your apron. Bring a salad or dessert to share with others. If you need transportation or have any questions, please call Nancy Flood at 283-3409.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 30 – AUGUST 3**

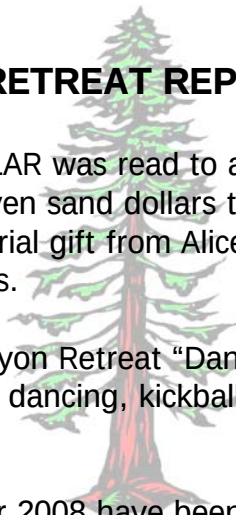


RETREAT REPORT

THE LEGEND OF THE SAND DOLLAR was read to all those who attended the Retreat, April 28-29. The children were given sand dollars to examine the parts. This book was purchased with part of the memorial gift from Alice Milwee and will be on the Sunday school bookshelf for use in classes.

42 people attended the Monte Toyon Retreat "Dance with Stars", participating in discussions, team challenges, line dancing, kickball, rope climbing, hiking, S'more making and worshipping.

Evaluations to help in planning for 2008 have been sent out. Please return them by May 20.



WELCOME CONFIRMANDS!!

Sunday, May 6 we welcomed 20 confirmands into the membership of LUMC! Judy Stillman led them through an eight-month process of learning about the Christian Church and deepening their faith. Each met with a mentor from the church family who encouraged them in their journey of faith. We are grateful for the commitment of all who made this a meaningful experience.

Confirmands

Claire Christine Breashears
Connor Gray Davis
Morgan Colleen Davis
Melissa Lorraine Emerson
Dominique Elizabeth Eyl
Juliette Francine Eyl
Eric Paul Falkenberg
Madison Gerringer
Harrison Griffin Kim
Christopher B. Kintner
John A. Kintner
Jacqueline Miller
Kelly Lian Noah
Julia Nicole Partlow
Jeffrey Jay Sawdon
Gavin T. Schroter
Stephanie L. Schroter
Melanie Rose VandenBerghe
Matthew Gregory Ward
Jacob Paul Welcomer

Mentors

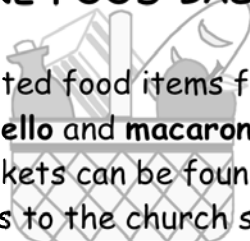
Celeste Graham
Joe Darrell, Wilson Davis
Pat Hershey, Joan Davis
Katherine Welcomer
Ellen Walters
Jeanette Shearer
Greg Horner
Ginny Leavitt
Don Keeble
Dwight Kintner
Tom Henderson
Teresa Gerringer
Jill Shibuya
Mary Renno, Mackenzie Gerringer
Mason Walters
Mike Robertson
Karen Chuck
Meng Ward
Mark VandenBerghe
Terry Miller



JUNE FOOD BASKET

The suggested food items for June are
jello and macaroni.

Food baskets can be found at both
entrances to the church sanctuary.



JUNE



- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Patricia Hershey | 10 Beth Ferree | 21 Jack Cotteral |
| 2 Tanner Burke | Christine Foster | Christopher Kintner |
| Tom Woo | 11 Peter Vanderliet | John Kintner |
| 3 Jacquie Kolbe | 13 Alicia Hill | Pat Porter |
| David White | Chris Newcomb | 22 Dean Coons |
| 4 Nicholas Brown | 15 Fran Smith | Katherine Schutt |
| David Smith | 16 Jacqueline Miller | 24 Celeste Warner |
| 5 Helen Harding | Frank Raggon | Sara Woo |
| Emily Shearer | 17 Linda Curtis | 26 Skyler DeMartini |
| Lizzy Straw | 18 Juliett Gendron | 27 Roger Falcone |
| 7 Keaton Chia | Julia Husch | Kalene Sanders |
| 8 Suzanne Cowden | Martha Raggon | 29 Matthew Hartshorn |
| | | 30 Jan Davis |



- 5 Martha and Frank Raggon
- 9 Barbara and Rod Levander
- 11 Julie and Brad Lennon
- 12 Chor Jee and David Chow
- Fran and Vic Smith
- 16 Maureen and Jim Straw
- 18 Barbara and Ray Peters
- 24 Sara and Tom Woo
- 25 Anne and Mark Vale
- 27 Jan and Tracy Davis
- 29 Meng and Greg Ward

CHURCH BUILDING USE

Our congregation is very generous in sharing our building with our church family and the community. With all the groups using our facility, we have hundreds of people on campus every week. The heavy building use requires detailed coordination on the part of the office and custodial staff.

If you are planning to use the church building, we ask your assistance in the following ways:

- **Schedule all events with Lorri Sullivan, the Office Administrator, through the master church calendar in the office.** Events are generally scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:00-12 noon and 1:00-4:30 p.m.
- Donations for building use are requested of several groups. This should be discussed with the Office Administrator.
- As a non-profit organization, church rooms cannot be rented to profit-making ventures on an ongoing basis.
- Plan ahead to make arrangements to borrow necessary keys during office hours and return them promptly after the event.
- Set-ups for events should be submitted to the church office a week prior to the event.
- The custodian does regular cleaning chores, but non-church groups should generally return rooms to the condition in which they were found (or better!), unless they are paying a clean-up fee. Kitchen clean-up is the responsibility of the groups using it.
- When you are finished, please turn off lights and thermostats, close all windows, and lock the building. **All doors should be carefully checked to make sure they are closed tightly and locked. The Fellowship Hall doors often do not latch properly.**
- Chairs and tables may only be borrowed by request through the Church Administrator. Events on campus have first-priority; if they are needed at church, we can't have them off-site! When equipment is returned, please place it inside the building where it belongs.

Thank you for helping keep our church campus safe, clean, and accessible.

Bayview District Superintendent Retirement Celebration

Sunday, June 3 at 4:00 p.m.
Taylor United Methodist Church
1188 12th Street, Oakland, CA
(510) 444-6162
Meet at LUMC at 3:15 p.m. to Carpool

Rev. Jim Lockwood-Stewart has been our District Superintendent for six years. He is also retiring and completing over 40 years of ministry. Cards and letters reflecting upon the impact Jim's ministry has made upon your ministry can be brought to the event or left in the church office before the event.

A Retirement Benefit Concert featuring
Jim Lockwood-Stewart, Bassoon
Andrew Stewart, Piano
Barbara Stewart Hoff, Piano

To Support the work of
The Wesley Foundation
Serving U.C. Berkeley

Program will include music of Mozart,
Hindemith, Vaughn-Williams,
Schubert and Saint-Saens

Friday, June 8, 2007 8:00 p.m.
San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church
902 Danville, Blvd., Alamo, CA

Admission Free- Donations requested

(Checks payable to "The Wesley Foundation" designated "Retirement Benefit" will support the work of the Wesley Foundation serving U.C. Berkeley)

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 DirectorJudy Stillman
Intern for Youth.....Terry Miller
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, May 24, 2007**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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