

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

June 17, 2007

SEEDS OF A SOWER

Summer often offers an opportunity for us to s-l-o-w down, to rest and relax, to contemplate where we've been, where we are, and where we want to go. It is important to take time occasionally to assess our lives, how we are spending our resources, how we are making a difference, and how we are responding to God's call in our lives.

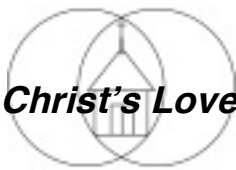
This summer our Vacation Bible School students will immerse themselves in the theme of *SonForce Kids*. They will learn what it means to be change agents, just as were Moses, Esther, Daniel, Jeremiah, Joshua and Caleb in the Bible.

During worship we will join the children in considering the characteristics of *Holy Heroes*. We all have the opportunity to be leaders, whether we be with our families, our neighbors, our colleagues, or a volunteer or community organization. Simply who we are is a model for others. The choice left to us is the quality of our leadership and modeling. I invite you into a season of intentional reflection upon how we are leading in the various roles of our lives.

May the summer hold moments of reflection and renewal for you!

Blessings,

Pastor Lori



Experiencing Christ's Love through Worship

June 24 Rev. Dwight Kintner preaching; Annual Conference Sunday

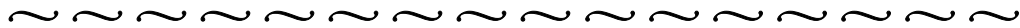
July 1 *Holy Heroes: TEAM Together Everyone Accomplishes More*
Exodus 18:13-27, Acts 6:1-6

July 8 8:30 Traditional worship in the sanctuary
Holy Heroes: Making Wise Decisions
10:30 Family Worship in the Fellowship Hall
Jazz in July led by the Kurt Ribak Quartet

July 15 *Holy Heroes: Challenge for Change*

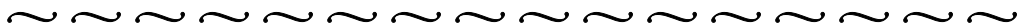
July 22 8:30 Traditional worship in the sanctuary
10:30 Family worship in the Fellowship Hall
Holy Heroes: Encouraging the Heart
with illustrations from *Charlotte's Web*

July 29 *Holy Heroes: Lifelong Learning*



June Tower Notes

Ginny Cowden will be out of town on the 4th (June 28) Thursday of June, so please submit all articles via e-mail to the Hendersons (tomaryh@comcast.net). You may also leave a hard copy of an article in the Tower Notes folder at the church office by noon on Thursday, June 28..



SUMMER VACATION

Are you planning on going on an extended vacation this summer? Remember the church before you leave. The regular expenses of the church – staff salaries, utilities, maintenance, etc. continue during the summer, even if a lot of us are away.

Ginny Leavitt, Finance Chair

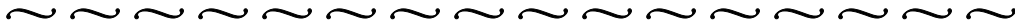
Welcome LUMC's Summer Organist

Charles Guiam is a recent graduate of Salesian High School. Charles began formal organ lessons four years ago with Jean Fisk under her Organ Scholar program supported by the United Methodist Church in Pinole (PUMC). In February, he was awarded first place in the San Francisco American Guild of Organists Chapter Competition of the Regional Competition for young organists. On June 23 we will compete against five other finalists from the West Coast. He has attended three Pipe Organ Encounters also around the west coast and has had instruction by several organists including: Dr. Margaret Evans, Simon Berry, Dr. Chido, and John Walko.

Charles is very active in both school and in church. He is part of the Shalom Bell Choir and is a co-director of the His Kids Bell Choir. Also at PUMC, he was part of the Silangan Dance Troop where he performed with others benefiting PUMC's Music Ministry. In school, Charles was the senior pianist in the school Jazz Band. He has played for school musicals and for school services.

Other activities include the Youth Council at PUMC and the Asian and Pacific Islander Club President at Salesian High School. He plays tennis and runs cross country. In the fall he will attend the University of California in Irvine aspiring to be a Civil Engineer.

Charles will be the summer organist at Lafayette UMC July-August 2007.



REIMBURSEMENTS FOR EXPENSES

So that there is a paper trail for audit purposes, The Finance Committee requests that reimbursement forms (available from the church office) to be turned in rather than just taking out expenses from the cash before turning in the income from church events/functions. Should you have any questions, contact Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857.



CD/DVD NEEDED



If you or anyone you know needs to unload unwanted CD's (like AOL or other program CD's) or DVD's, we need 100 of them for one of our VBS craft projects. Please contact Jill Shibuya at 284-2826 or jes3134@yahoo.com if you know of a free source. Thank you!

POLICY REMINDER

It is the long standing policy of this Church for any bills or reimbursements to be signed off by the Chair of the Committee before bills/reimbursements are paid. The Committee Chairs are the ones responsible for the accounting of funds allocated for their committees. Thus, if you need to make purchases or order supplies, first be sure that the Committee Chair has approved this, and then submit the bill/reimbursement form to the Committee Chair. For example, if having to do with Worship, see Nancy Flood, Sunday School, Barbara Levander, Memorials, Mary Henderson, etc. Thank you for your consideration so that we can keep our accounting accurate.
Ginny Leavitt, Finance Chair

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**July 29 - Aug. 3**

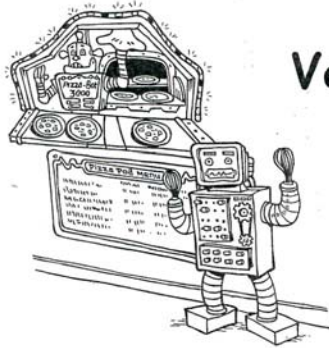
Invite your children and friends to join SonForce Kids -- God's courageous team of disciples standing side-by-side to serve Him. As SonForce special agents, they will follow in the words of Joshua 1:9: Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

The SonForce Kids headquarters will be located on a satellite orbiting high above the earth. In the hi-tech command center, SonForce agents will gather to prepare for their five Daily Missions: Trust! Unite! Train! Follow! Lead! Throughout the week, students will have the opportunity to grow in their understanding of what it means to serve God with courage as they advance from Level 1 to Level 5 agents!

Call 284-4765 to Register



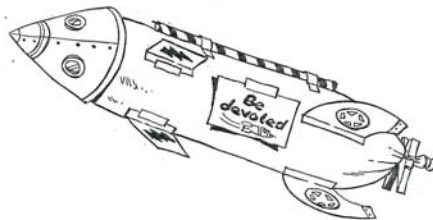
## Vacation Bible Day Camp



July 30 - Aug. 3, 9 - 12 noon  
At Lafayette United Methodist Church  
955 Moraga Road, Lafayette  
(Across from the Lafayette Library)  
Ages 3 - 15, \$50 each  
284-4765

Crafts, music, games, stories and snacks!  
Everyone is welcome. Bring your friends.

On A Mission For God  
Decoding, Joshua 1:9



Registration forms available in the Church Office.

## JAZZ in JULY

Sunday, July 8

8:30 Traditional worship in the Sanctuary

10:30 Jazz Worship in the Fellowship Hall

11:30 Picnic Lunch in the Courtyard



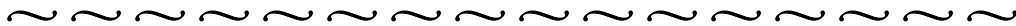
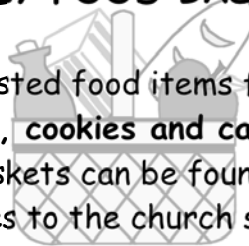
The Jazz worship will be led by Kurt Ribak Quartet. Kurt Ribak (pronounced REE-bok, like the shoes) is a bassist who has played at the Fillmore Jazz Festival; San Francisco Jazz Festival; Yoshi's; Pearl's; First UMC, Pt. Richmond; Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church. His trio currently plays every Friday, 7 to 10 PM at Prima Ristorante in Walnut Creek. Their first CD, "Kurt Ribak Trio," is in print. The group includes piano, upright bass, drums, and saxophone. Come for an experience of soulful, eclectic and accessible original jazz!



## JULY FOOD BASKET

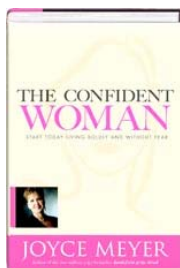
The suggested food items for July are  
**cool pops, cookies and canned fruit**

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



## CHURCH LIBRARY

**Book Review – "The Confident Woman", Joyce Meyer**



"There is only one thing you can do with a free gift, and that is receive it and be grateful. I urge you to take a step of faith right now and say out loud, "God loves me unconditionally, and I receive His love!" You may have to say it a hundred times a day, like I did for months, before it finally sinks in, but when it does it will be the happiest day of your life." But you ask (the reader), doesn't everyone know this? No we don't. It's difficult to embrace and take to heart if we were raised in a secular home. Joyce Meyer grew up in an abusive, dysfunctional home and was filled with shame. It's remarkable that she has lead her life with such determination and purpose (garnished with a few downfalls) to now be the best selling author of more than seventy inspirational books. She travels around the world leading conferences and can be heard on radio and seen on television. Her writing style is clear and direct and her Bible teaching relevant to our every day life. On the bookcart. Take a look!

Review by Blanche Cancel



## SILENT AUCTION Coming This FALL!

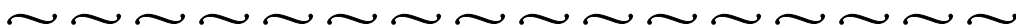
As you are browsing this summer, why not think about a basket idea as a donation for the Silent Auction to be held Sunday noon on October 7. You can often find some neat buys over the summer so, be thinking LUMC Silent Auction as you are out and about!! Some ideas might be a Day at the Beach, Bath and Body Basket, Scrap Booking basket, Baby basket, Stamp Basket, Handyman Kit, Garden Basket the ideas are endless! It is not too early to turn in items if you have something, but need one of our committee members to put it together in a basket for you. Just contact Jeanette Shearer, 284-9093, or Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857.



## AROUND ABOUT LUMC

**Gloria and Wendell Pleis** shared a bulletin from the Baccalaureate Service at the United States Naval Academy Chapel, Annapolis, Maryland, where their grandson graduated in May.

Word has been received of the death of **Katherine Schutt** at the age of 96. Katherine was baptized at LUMC in 1923 and confirmed as a member in April 1927. She was a member of the congregation for 80 years! Until her death, she held the record for the longest membership of the church. Katherine was born and raised in Lafayette and graduated from San Ramon Valley Union High School (class of 1929). After attending Business College and working as a licensed real estate agent and broker, she opened her own firm in 1946, Acalanes Real Estate Co. in Lafayette. She moved to Calistoga upon retirement 25 years ago.



The following note was received from Stanley Moms in Touch who pray Thursday mornings in Maggie Mae:

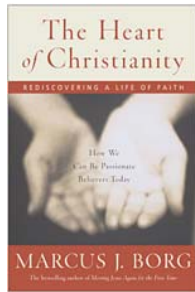
Thank you for generously sharing the Maggie Mae Lounge with us again this year so that we could gather and pray for all the people at Stanley Middle School.

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus so that with one heart and one mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 15:5-6

The following note was received from the Futures Explored Drama Class:

Once again you have heartfully fulfilled our needs by providing a space for us to share the talents of our clients. You have been available to us. We truly appreciate you as our neighbor and friends.





## Looking for a Good Summer Read? *The Heart of Christianity* is highly recommended!

During the Lent and Easter season, the Monday morning P.R.A.Y. the Bible group read and studied the book, *The Heart of Christianity*, by Marcus Borg. Group members found it a helpful framing of Christian faith and beliefs for our time. Following are some of the group member's reflections.

*I have been looking for a spiritual path for a few years, after leaving church during my youth. I have believed in Jesus and tried to live by His teachings all my life. I wanted to combine my everyday life with the traditions and community a church can offer. I wasn't sure I was pursuing the right path until I read The Heart of Christianity by Marcus Borg. This theologian has investigated his faith and spoke to me as an interpreter of the words of Jesus and the path to God. Building the Kingdom of God on earth is the purpose of all human existence. Reading this book and discussing it with Pastor Lori and the others in our group gave me a lot of insight into what it means to be a Christian. It is our duty to worship God, take care of each other and seek Justice for all of God's creations. I highly recommend this book and the P.R.A.Y. meetings each Monday morning.*

Pat Farrow

After reading *The Heart of Christianity*, I became aware that we should be passionate Christians in today's world, which means caring about the needs of others and helping to see that those needs are met! Ann Kritscher

*After reading Borg's book and comparing it to the Bible, it opened my eyes to see and accept the differences we have as God's creation. Everything God created is Good. The differences that I referred to could be belief, religion, custom, color or race. Now I have peace in my heart when confronting with these differences in other people. In the past, I would try to convert them to Christianity or judged them very harshly.*

Leiola Walter

Marcus Borg, in his book *The Heart of Christianity* has offered me insights, reassurances and encouragement to continue on my journey as a Christian. Many of the ambiguities on the path behind me were considered, discussed and, in my heart and mind, resolved. The respect and delight he has for the teachings of the other major world religions as they reiterate God's message is infectious, and encourages me as I interact with a wide variety of people in my work. His highlighting of the social and political messages from God through Jesus motivate and guide me in the choices that I make in my life.

Ellen Walters



# July

## Happy Birthday

- |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 <i>Barbara Breashears</i><br/> <i>Mark Heptig</i><br/> <i>Randall Husch</i></p>                                                                | <p>9 <i>Aaron Makinson</i><br/>           10 <i>Idris Evans</i><br/> <i>Allison Falkenberg</i><br/> <i>Bob Hobson</i></p>                        | <p>20 <i>Janice Kolbe</i><br/>           21 <i>Cameron Sanders</i><br/>           23 <i>Kathryn Walenter</i><br/>           24 <i>Jonathan Askay</i></p> |
| <p>2 <i>Daniel Curtis</i><br/>           3 <i>Ryan Heptig</i><br/>           4 <i>Conner Chia</i><br/> <i>Gloria Pleis</i></p>                      | <p>11 <i>Steve Hobson</i><br/> <i>Dorothy Youngmans</i><br/>           13 <i>Michael Reeder</i><br/> <i>Cole Vryens</i></p>                      | <p><i>Jim Bolen</i><br/> <i>Amelia Roberts</i><br/> <i>Rada Walsh</i><br/>           25 <i>Virginia Thomas</i></p>                                       |
| <p>5 <i>Megan Curtis</i><br/> <i>Laurel Hill</i><br/>           8 <i>Isabella Chechele</i><br/> <i>Perry Corcoran</i><br/> <i>Jake Walenter</i></p> | <p>14 <i>Morgan Davis</i><br/>           16 <i>Ginny Cowden</i><br/>           18 <i>Zoe McPhail</i><br/>           19 <i>Tammy Thompson</i></p> | <p>27 <i>Kristina Bove</i><br/> <i>Ginny Horner</i><br/>           30 <i>Lauren Darrell</i></p>                                                          |

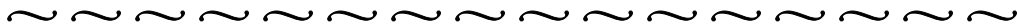


- 2 *Pat and Roger Falcone*  
*Mary and Tom Henderson*  
*Beth and Scott White*
- 3 *Tiffany and David Grayson*
- 15 *Carole and Bill Linson*
- 16 *Sherri and Paul Gendron*
- 18 *Lorri and Jim Sullivan*
- 19 *Nancy and Henry Lennstrom*
- 20 *Mary and Bob Hobson*  
*Dottie and Gil Vieira*
- 27 *Michele and Alan Miller*
- 29 *Patricia and Thomas Farrow*

## MEMORIALS DEDICATED

On Pentecost Sunday, May 26, two memorial gifts were received and dedicated by the congregation. New Pentecost paraments, an altar cloth and Bible marker, were given in loving memory of Catherine "Katie" Elizabeth Martin. Paraments are decorative hangings placed in our chancel. The different colors and symbols mark the seasons of the church year. The color of Pentecost is red and traditional symbols of the season are the dove, flames of fire, and the wind.

An eternal light was given by Celeste Graham in loving memory of Robert Allen Graham. The eternal light burns constantly in the sanctuary, reminding us of the eternal presence of God; Jesus, the light of the World; and the flaming fire of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel of John tells us that Jesus is the Light of the World, who shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome the true Light of God.



### 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             |
| 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

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday by Noon – Next Deadline **Thursday, June 28, 2007**

### LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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