

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

August 26, 2007

CATCH THE SPIRIT! HOMECOMING SUNDAY

September 9th

Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

All-Church Potluck at 11:30 a.m.

Come and cheer for our LUMC team and
enjoy great food and fellowship.



If your last name starts with A-F, please *bring a salad* for 8-10

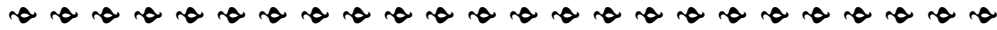
Those whose last names begin with G to K, bring dessert for 8-10.

Last names beginning with L to Z, please bring a main dish for 8-10.



United Methodist Women
Women's Division

The UMW will gather for the first meeting of the fall on Thursday, September 6. We will meet in the Fireside Room at 11:00 a.m. for a brief meeting, program and lunch. See you there!



FALL EVENTS



Homecoming Sunday

September 9

Worship at 8:30 and 10:30

All-Church Potluck at 11:30

Plan to come home to God and our church family!

There's a place at the table for you!

P.R.A.Y. the Bible

Mondays, 8:30 a.m.

Starting September 10

Room 9



This fall we will focus on the Gospel of Matthew. Study books are available in the church office. All are welcome to join this group of folks interested in claiming the message of the Bible and living it in our daily lives.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, September 15

8:00-9:30 a.m.

Fireside Room



Deep River Group for Women

Alternate Wednesdays beginning September 26th

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Led by Ellen Walters and Lori Saw don

Our resources will be *Finding the Deep River Within: A Woman's Guide to Recovering Balance & Meaning in Everyday Life*, by Abby Seixas

From the author: *Today's women don't need more time management skills to help them pack even more into their already over-packed schedules. They need tools to help them put on the brakes, gather themselves, and remember what really matters.*

You are invited to take some time for yourself, pause in the stillness of God's presence, and tap into the Deep River of nourishment for the journey of life.

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS



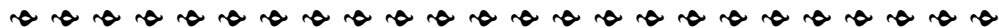
If you have your donation ready you may turn it in to Ginny or Jeanette at any time, the earlier the better for the best presentation. If you have your things, but are fussing with how to present them, not to worry. We have a volunteer who is ready and able to present it for you. Just turn them in to Jeanette, or Ginny. She also makes up neat gift certificates, so once again just give your idea to Jeanette or Ginny. Still needs the "right idea" – how about tickets to a sporting event, gift certificate/goods from a business where you have connections, a service that you can offer that would be a benefit to others, such as handyman, tutoring, lessons in your forte, driving, ---- let your imagination take over! There is still plenty of room for more baskets – pet lovers, food, video night baskets, etc. are just a few ideas that have been popular in the past. OR how about helping with the hors d'oeuvres? Just let Ginny know you'd like to make one of your favorites! Ginny Leavitt 284-7857, or Jeanette Shearer – 284-9093



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Regular Sunday school classes will start with the first lesson of the Fall curriculum on September 2, Labor Day weekend. There may be a puppet presentation of the story of Ruth and Naomi.

Teachers for the year are: Preschool - Nancy Sanders, Martha Cervantes, Randall Husch
K-1st Grade - Jill Shibuya, Meng Ward, Roseann Beeman
3-5th Grade - Katherine Welcomer, Teresa Gerringer, Donna Partlow



SILENT AUCTION LUNCHEON – OCTOBER 7 LUMC'S "NOT TO BE MISSED" FUNDRAISER EVENT

(All proceeds go to the GENERAL BUDGET for the Mission of our Church)

ADULT LUNCH (and Youth over 11) - \$10 per person

Includes buffet hors d'oeuvres, sit down/served entrée, rolls, dessert, and beverages

ENTERTAINMENT

KIDS MEAL (11 and under) - \$5 per child

Special kid pleaser meal served with supervised care on the playground for the duration of the event

OPPORTUNITIES TO BID ON SILENT AUCTION ITEMS THROUGHOUT THE EVENT - ALSO, LIVE AUCTION DURING LUNCHEON! Do your Christmas shopping early, or find that special gift/service that is just what you wanted!

Any questions – call Ginny Leavitt – 284-7857

PLEASE TURN IN THIS FORM/WITH CHECK, payable to LUMC, SILENT AUCTION, TO THE CHURCH OFFICE, OR IN THE COLLECTION PLATE BY SUNDAY, September 30

_____ # of adults at \$10 each

_____ # of kid meals at \$5 each

Name _____

Stewardship Opportunity: Blood Drive Coordinator

Sunday, Sept. 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the bloodmobile will be on our church campus to receive donations of blood. We need someone to schedule donors, be our contact with the blood bank, and publicize the opportunity. If you are willing to share your time and talents in this way, please call the church office. And remember to eat your spinach and build up your blood to be a donor in September!



JUST AROUND THE CORNER! LUMC'S SILENT AUCTION – SUNDAY. OCTOBER 7



Have you an idea of how you would like to contribute to our second big fundraiser for *the mission* of the church? The Silent Auction Luncheon is a fun way to raise funds, and needs the talents of many! You could consider donating a basket to be auctioned – you can be as creative as you like - what about donating a service, such as computer help, tutoring, handyman chores, painting, babysitting, pet care, etc. What about a gift certificate from your place of business, a weekend in your vacation home? Let us know your ideas by calling Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857 or Jeanette Shearer, 284-9093 or by filling out the form below and turning it in at the church office, or just drop it in the collection plate on a Sunday!

I will help with the Silent Auction by donating:

A gift basket, _____ (type of basket, such as baby basket) I
will prepare the basket myself _____, I would like to committee to prepare my donation

A Service _____ (type of service)

A gift certificate for _____

Other _____

I would be willing to help with the food prep for the Luncheon _____

I WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE HORS D'OEUVRES _____

NAME _____ Phone _____

CHURCH LIBRARY

"A very interesting life!" said Fran Smith after she read "CHOPSTICK CHILDHOOD" by Nona Mock Wyman. This book is one we have in our LUMC library and was reviewed by Blanche Cancel in the July 29 Tower Notes. It is now back on the cart for someone else to enjoy!!



LUMC Pooled Income Fund

NO LOCKS!!!!

Last Sunday Ginny Leavitt was talking to our "Young Disciples" about "No Locks" regarding the game Four Square played at the school where Ginny used to teach. The "No Locks" term means that no one could be locked out or denied the opportunity to play the game.

Well, it is just like that with the LUMC Pooled Income Fund. There are NO LOCKS on our Pooled Income Fund which means that EVERYONE can become a part of the Fund.

With the game Four Square there are always some winners and some losers. That is the way it is with competitive games. HOWEVER, with our Pooled Income Fund there are ONLY WINNERS. There are NO LOSERS. The Pooled Income Fund is a WIN – WIN situation. Donors win because they get a handsome income for the rest of their lives, they get a very generous charitable contribution deduction that reduces their income taxes AND LUMC wins because a gift has been made to the church to ensure our programs will be able to continue into the future. So, actually you could say it is a WIN –WIN – WIN situation.

The only one you could argue is a loser is the Internal Revenue Service because our Pooled Income Fund donors SAVE substantial income taxes. But, are we not all trying to win that game!!!

Don't wait to get into the game. Jump into the Pool by contacting the church office today.



Our congregation is richly blessed with musical talent. We are grateful to the various musicians who have offered special music during worship this summer - Dr. Joseph Figg, Kelly Noah, The Four Sisters (Linda Berti, Bunny Gruhn, Gail Manson, and Mary Rinehart), The Kurt Ribak Quartet (Kurt Ribak, Greg Sankovich, Matt Willis, and Tom Griesser with special guest vocalist Sheilani Alix), The Praize Kidz, and Sarina Woo.



Project Homeless Connect 2
October 16, 2007 - 9AM - 3PM
Willow Pass Center - 2748 East Olivera Road
Concord, CA 94519

We need your help for a one-day, one-stop shop to offer a variety of services to people experiencing homelessness, connecting them with benefits, medical care, substance abuse and mental health counseling, social services, housing and shelter.

We need volunteers and service providers to help:

- complete applications for medical care & dental care
- provide employment services & placement
- provide mental health & alcohol & other drug counseling & referral
- greet and route people
- provide translation
- serve food
- provide legal assistance & referral
- provide massage, foot care & pet care
- provide wheelchair repair
- provide educational classes
- provide domestic violence counseling & referral

Visit the website at cchealth.org or contact Contra Costa County Health Services Homeless Program at 925-313-6124. Pastor Lori volunteered in Richmond last year. It was a worthwhile investment of time.



Church Council Meeting Minutes - July 17, 2007

Attendees: Pastor Lori Sawdon, Pat Hershey, Ginny Leavitt, David White, Jack Cotteral, Tom Henderson, Carol Slatten, Ginny Cowden, Doug Cowden, Dean Coons and Robyn Roberts

Meeting Called to Order - Council Chairperson Pat Hershey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Joys and concerns were shared and the meeting was opened with prayer.

Approval of the May Minutes - Ginny Leavitt moved to approve the May 15, 2007 Church Council Meeting Minutes. Carol Slatten seconded the motion. Robyn Roberts abstained from the vote as she was not present at the May meeting. The motion passed unanimously by the voting members of the Council.

Devotional - Pastor Lori shared from the book *Christianity for the Rest of Us* by Diana Butler Bass regarding the ministry of justice. The Council discussed this topic in light of the summer sermon series on leadership.

REPORTS

Staff Parish - Staff Parish Chairperson Ginny Cowden reported that the search for a new organist and a youth director were under way. Ginny also noted that the Staff Parish Relations Committee is in the process of creating a written personnel policies and procedures manual.

Lay Leadership - Pastor Lori reported that the Lay Leadership team is scheduled to hold its first meeting on July 19, 2007 to discern leaders for church teams and committees in the coming year.

Finance - Finance Committee Chairperson, Ginny Leavitt reported that LUMC received an unexpectedly large workers' compensation bill and a team was in place to address this issue with LUMC's insurance broker.

- David White presented the June Treasurer's Report to the Church Council. (See attached). The year to date income is greater than expected but pledged income is less than expected. A reminder regarding pledges has been placed in the Tower Notes and some pledgers have communicated with the church regarding the status of their pledges. Non-pledged income is greater than expected.

- David White also reported that he is continuing his work on revisions to the balance sheet.

- David also announced that his three year term as treasurer is coming to a close this December and he would like the Lay Leadership Committee to provide a new treasurer to fill the post. The entire Church Council thanked David for the work he has done as treasurer.

Program Council - No Report was presented for the Program Council.

Trustees - Trustees Chairperson, Joe Darrell, is out of town. Pat Hershey reported at his request that Trustees are operating within the budget.

OLD BUSINESS - The LUMC task force selected to interface with the City of Lafayette regarding the city's Senior Housing project met with Eden Housing, the developer selected by the City for the project. Pursuant to this meeting, it was determined that the City is no longer considering any of LUMC's property as a potential site for the Senior Housing project. Eden Housing will be pursuing other options.

NEW BUSINESS

Joyful Beginnings Licensing Resolution - The attached Resolution was presented to the Church Council by Ginny Leavitt. The Resolution is needed for Joyful Beginnings attendance purposes. The Council engaged in discussion about the Resolution. Ginny Leavitt moved that the Council approve the Resolution. Tom Henderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Annual Conference - Pastor Lori presented the DVD provided to churches at Annual Conference. The DVD reflected the diversity of the Church in our conference and emphasized our unity in Christ.

Girl Scouts - The Girl Scouts have presented LUMC with an award for supporting the activities of the Girl Scouts.

Chamber of Commerce - The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce presented LUMC with a commemorative award for fifty years of membership.

- The Council discussed locations for displaying these awards.

ADJOURN - Church Council Chairperson, Pat Hershey adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING - Church Council meets next at **7:30 on Tuesday, September 18, 2007.**

Respectfully Submitted, Robyn Roberts (Secretary Pro Tem)

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....The Reverend Lori Sawdon
Pastor e-mail.....Sawdon2@pacbell.net
Director of Music Ministry.....Ronald Sutherland
Organist & Keyboard/Pianist.....Charles Guiam
Youth Director
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, September 13, 2007**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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