

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

June 15, 2008

SEEDS OF A SOWER

As I write area high school seniors are in rehearsal for graduation ceremonies. The end of an academic year is a season of change for many people. Growth and learning is rewarded with promotion to a new grade, which brings excitement, anticipation, and anxiety. Any change brings a mixture of emotions and both blessings and challenges. While we often resist change, our lives would be diminished without change and fresh experiences. A few famous folks point to that truth:

When you're finished changing, you're finished. Benjamin Franklin
We delight in the beauty of the butterfly but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty. Maya Angelou

Change is an opportunity to grow. Whether or not we like the change, we can seize it as means for internal development. In cultivating a deeper awareness of our feelings, we can choose how to respond. Our response is a choice given to each of us.

When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves. Viktor Frankl

Our congregation is moving through yet another staff change. The Director of Music, Ronald Sutherland, has decided to leave the position. He finds it necessary to reduce his workload for health reasons. In his two years with us, Ronald has led a vibrant chapter in our music ministry. We are grateful for the spiritual depth, the innovation, the variety of musical styles, and the personal warmth he offered in his ministry. We are making plans to celebrate his ministry with us. We have been delighted and stretched in rich ways under his leadership.

As we move forward, we trust that a new music leader will bring unique and special gifts which will also inspire and grow us. In the midst of sadness, we hold fast to hope for the future.

Change is the law of life and those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future. John F. Kennedy

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

Jazz in June
Sunday, June 22
10:30 Worship
Fellowship Hall

Featuring the Tice Valley Jazz Band, led by Bob Sutherland

Enjoy the music of Dixieland jazz, sing some old favorites, and join in a hot dog picnic lunch following the service. If your last name starts with A-M please bring Dessert to share; N-Z bring Salads to share. Hot dogs, chips, and beverages will be provided.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

No classes on JAZZ IN JUNE Sunday the 22nd. Bring the whole family to the service in Fellowship Hall!

June 29 classes will meet as usual after the Children's Message - Preschool in Rm.1, K-2nd in Rm. 6, and 3rd-5th graders in Rm. 8.

July 6 and 13 there will be activities for children Preschool-5th grades in room 5 upstairs in the Education building after the Children's message.

July 20 all children are invited to stay in the Sunday service, which will be led by the Vacation Bible School children.

July 27 Families are invited to worship together in Fellowship Hall.

August Sundays there will be NO CLASSES for children. A table of materials (pencils, crayons, paper, puzzles, books) will be available in the back of the sanctuary. When the service is over, please return the materials to this table.



**NEW HEARING AID BATTERIES
DONATED TO THE CHURCH
SIZES 13 AND SIZES 312
BEST OFFERS
Contact CHURCH OFFICE**

Town Hall on the State Budget
Thursday, June 26, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
St. Stephen Catholic Church
1101 Keaveny Ct., Walnut Creek

The Interfaith Council, along with the League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley are sponsoring this public dialogue with local legislators about the local impacts of the proposed no-cuts state budget. We will particularly talk about education, seniors and transportation. Come and engage. For more information, contact eye4cee@aol.com or 925-933-6030.



SonWorld

Vacation Bible School

at

Lafayette United Methodist Church

When: Monday through Friday, July 14-18, 9:00am - 12:00 noon and
Thursday evening, July 17, 7:00 pm, Ice Cream Social

Who: Children entering preschool - entering 7th grade.

Cost: \$50 per child

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To pre-register please return to:

Lafayette United Methodist Church

955 Moraga Road, Lafayette, 284-4765

Please enclose a check made payable to LUMC.

Child's Name_____ Birthdate_____

Parent or Guardian's Name_____

Street Address_____

City_____ Zip_____ Phone_____



Vacation Bible Day Camp

July 14 - 18, 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.

Visiting a theme park,
 Learn to make good decisions.



"Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve."

Joshua 24:15, NIV



FRIENDSHIP TIME PREPARATION

Many have noted the special nature of the fellowship time we have following worship. We have been fortunate to have had four different people set up Friendship Time early Sunday mornings, each serving three months of the year. Two of those are moving on. Thus we have immediate need for others to “fill the gap” during the month of August – and some permanent folks to serve after summer.

Basic responsibilities include:

Arrive by 7:30 a.m. Sunday

Start coffee, hot water for tea, and prepare lemonade

Purchase (and be reimbursed) muffins or light snacks

Set up snacks on trays

If you would be willing to take on this responsibility one Sunday in August, please let the church office know: 284-4765 or lumc@pacbell.net.

Sundays in need of this ministry: August 10, 17, 24, 31



LIBRARY CART

“Inspiring Progress, Religions’ Contributions to Sustainable Development” by Gary T. Gardner



“An in-depth, moving, and highly relevant relating of religious beliefs, actions, and traditions as not just part of the solution, but one of the few viable answers to the environmental and existentialist crises that confront us today. Brilliant and fascinating this is a veritable ‘bible’ of the religious involvement in ecology---and of the need that ecology has for religion.” Martin Palmer, Secretary General, Alliance of Religions and Conservation.

“GPS God’s Plan for Significance” A Road Map for the Rest of Your Life by Jerry and Shirley Rose

“Do you feel positive about your second half, or fear the best years of your life are over? Are you ready for retirement, or does the prospect leave you anxious, fearful, or depressed? Are mistakes from your past hampering your future? Wherever you are on life’s journey, GPS can provide your own personal roadmap to help you reach your destination of happiness, fulfillment, and true significance. CEO of Christian Broadcasting Network.



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.



July Birthdays

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

Wedding Anniversaries

- 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
- 26 *Jean and Chadwick Follmer*
- 27 *Michele and Alan Miller*
- 29 *Patricia and Thomas Farrow*



Volunteers in Mission are needed in Fernley, Nevada this summer. Early Saturday morning, January 5, 2008, a 30' section of the Truckee Canal breached, flooding an area of approximately two square miles.

Over 500 homes in Fernley's southeast neighborhoods filled with water anywhere from 6 inches to 8 feet deep, with 3-4 feet in the majority of homes. The homeowners will need sheetrock, paint and other materials to repair flood-damaged homes. Our annual conference disaster response efforts will be focused on long-term recovery for those homeowners who have no other resources to rebuild their homes and their lives.

More information is available at www.cnumvim.org or in the church office.



HOSPITAL BED AVAILABLE

A church family has a nearly new hospital bed available, no cost, only transportation to your location. If you would like to contact the family, call the church office for the information.



Round About LUMC

We sorrow, but not as those without hope, upon the death of **Sally Stan** May 28. A memorial service celebrating her life will be held at the church Saturday, July 26 at 2:00 p.m. Sally will long be remembered as the architect who designed extensions to LUMC's sanctuary, education building, and parsonage.

Heroes Arise, written by **Laurel Anne Hill**, received a ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year Award for 2007 (bronze award, science fiction category) and was a finalist in the young adult category. *Heroes Arise* was a finalist for the Next Generation Indie Book Awards, young adult and best cover design categories.

Joseph MacDannald was awarded the Eagle Scout Award from Troop 219 that meets at LUMC on Monday evenings. Joseph's Eagle project was removing 2,000 feet of old barbed wire fence posts through rough terrain off Mt. Diablo State Park. Joseph is training to become an Advanced Western Pleasure Horseback Rider.

Coralee Dailey recently visited the Mt. Tabor UMC in Dunkirk, Indiana and shared their worship program. As you are about your travels this summer, bring Pastor Lori a worship program and some fresh ideas from the churches you visit.

RECYCLE, RECYCLE, RECYCLE!

Are you remembering the church's recycling program --- plastic bottles, aluminum cans, ink cartridges, cell phones!!! Help your church and the environment the easy way!! RECYCLE! Recycle your money, too - Renew or signup for eScrip and participating merchants will recycle some of your money spent in their establishments back to the church! The church's ID number for eScrip is #140622383. If you have any questions, contact Ginny Leavitt - 284-7857



CIRCLE THE DATE!
LUMCs HIGH TEA/HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
Saturday, November 15



Summer Vacation Photos!



We're preparing a slide show of YOUR summer vacation to show our church family on Homecoming Sunday, September 7! Send a photo with your family names and vacation location to David White at dandjw@comcast.net.

EASTER OFFERING THANK YOU

From Rev. Tarah Trueblood, Executive Director and Campus Pastor,
Wesley House & Student Center, UC Berkeley

Thank you very much for your generous gift of \$300 to the Wesley Foundation at the University of California, Berkeley for our Bridge the Gap campaign! We are now building toward our three-year goal of \$270,000 to sustain general operations while we develop plans for Wesley House. Your continued support moves us closer to making our dream come true.



Dear Friends at LUMC,

Thank you for sharing the beautiful Maggie Mae Room with us again!

To God, who alone is wise, be the glory forever through Jesus Christ. Amen!
Romans 16:27

Stanley Moms-In-Touch



Lafayette United Methodist Church Minutes of the Church Council Meeting Of May 20, 2008

Present: Chairperson Pat Hershey, Pastor Lori Sawdon, Robyn Roberts, Carol Slatten, Ginny Leavitt, Pat Porter, Jack Cotteral, David Inglis, Tom Henderson, Ginny Cowden, Doug Cowden, Secretary Kurt Teichmann

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Chairperson Hershey led us in prayer asking that committee members might discern God's will as we do his work.

The minutes of the April 15th, 2008 meeting were approved by consensus.

Staff Parish Report Pat Porter passed out the Committee's newly revised Lay Staff Vacation/Holiday Policy for Church Council's review. It was agreed that the policy should be read over the next month and considered for approval at the next CC Meeting. Porter reported that the Committee had completed its review of church staff employees' compensation. Three local, comparable-sized churches shared their employees' compensation for our study. As a result of the study, it was determined that church administrator Lori Sullivan's pay was below other churches. Motion to increase her pay by 10% as of July 1st. Made by Porter, seconded by Henderson. Approved unanimously.

Lay Leadership Report No Report

Finance Committee Report Ginny Leavitt reported that the Church continues to be in very good financial position. YTD pledges are close to budget. [Note that budget numbers are on an historical basis month by month rather than simply 1/12 of the annual figures.] Non-pledged giving continued strong in April causing the YTD total to exceed budget by \$4,400. Other-use-of-the-church income exceeded budget as well. May will be even better since Acalanes check has just been received. Expenses remain in line. Starting next month, the unbudgeted share of our apportionments and desired Askings contributions will be included in the budget as budget items, which we hope to be able to pay. This will yield greater clarity to our financial position.

- Ginny Leavitt said that she and the bookkeeper were continuing to simplify the church's balance sheet. Chairperson Hershey complimented Ginny Leavitt on her work. It was noted that Leavitt is not an accountant so her job working with a new bookkeeper has had extra challenges, which she has impressively met.

- Leavitt reported that the 2007 financial statements audit took place in March, a record in recent memory! The church is in fine shape. Joyce, the accountant's bill was \$960. Motion to divide the cost 2/3 to LUMC and 1/3 to Joyful Beginnings was made by Tom Henderson and seconded by Doug Cowden. It was noted that this has traditionally been the split and reflected the relative complexities of the two entities. Motion approved unanimously.

Trustees Committee Report Pastor Lori reported for Trustees. They have signed a \$4,500 contract to have the fascia on the outside of the Fellowship Hall repaired. Trustees is getting bids on the parking lot lights and other parking lot matters; the cost may be as high as \$2,500. The parsonage watering system has been replaced. Trustees is forming sub-committees to handle various projects.

Program Council Report No Report

Old Business None

New Business Pastor Lori proposed that the Council be given copies of Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations to read. She noted other congregations are reading the book and finding it useful with tie-ins to the Stewardship Campaign. There was a general consensus in favor.

The question was raised if absentees from Council meetings should be listed in the minutes. It was noted that committee attendance was good and that attendees received recognition in the minutes. Motion to not list absences was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By
Kurt F. Teichmann, Church Council Secretary

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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	The Reverend Lori Sawdon
Pastor e-mail.....	Sawdon2@pacbell.net
Director of Music Ministry.....	Ronald Sutherland
Organist & Keyboard/Pianist.....	Ken Mansfield
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, June 26, 2008**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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E_Mail.....	lumc@pacbell.net
Web Site.....	www.thelumc.org