

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

July 13, 2008

SEEDS OF A SOWER

As a bibliophile, I like to read lists of summer reading recommendations. Unfortunately I read far more lists than I do books! I thought I'd share some of my recent reads, books inspiring for people of faith. I'm happy to share my copies. I'd also welcome your recommendations.

The Soloist: A Lost Dream, an Unlikely Friendship, and the Redemptive Power of Music, by Steve Lopez. *Los Angeles Times* reporter Steve Lopez befriends a homeless musician suffering from mental illness. Mr. Lopez persists in his effort to restore Mr. Ayers, a former Julliard student, to health and wholeness, although the journey is long and continues even as the book concludes. I appreciated the insights into the homeless with mental illness; some who choose to live "on the streets" often do so because they have been mistreated by "the system."

The Lemon Tree: An Arab, A Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East, by Sandy Tolan of Cal's Graduate School of Journalism. This is the story of a Palestinian family who fled their home in 1948 during the Arab-Israeli war. Their house became the home of a Jewish family who fled Europe following the Holocaust. The author tells the stories of the two families and their eventual meeting, set in the larger context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The book is especially timely in light of the 60th anniversary of the founding of Israel.

Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy, by Donald Kraybill, Steven Nolt, and David Weaver-Zercher. Our nation was horrified by the shooting of ten schoolgirls at Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania in October 2006. Then we were stunned by the Amish community's collective and radical act of forgiveness toward the shooter and his family. This book probes the roots of the Amish culture and the profound faith that leads them to offer forgiveness. A helpful distinction is made between two types of forgiveness: decisional and emotional.

Happy Reading!

Pastor Lori



SEARCH FOR NEW DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



The staff parish relations committee has started the search for a new Director of Music. The process began with creating an updated job description of the position, advertising copy for the position, and selecting a search committee. The following members of the church family are on the search team Pastor Lori Sawdon, Robyn Roberts, Ellen Walters, Jack Cotteral, Jan Davis, Ken Mansfield, Celeste Graham, and Pat Porter. The job opening is currently being advertised. Once we receive applications, interviews with the search team will be scheduled. Candidates that pass the initial interview process will be asked to audition with the choir. If you know any possible candidates, or have suggestions that might help the search process please contact a member of the search team.

Below is the job description for the Director of Music.



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Suburban multigenerational congregation of 250 members seeks an enthusiastic musician to:

- direct the adult and youth choirs,
- explore various types of spiritual and liturgical music, and
- provide excellence and leadership for the worship experience.

Candidates should have experience in choral direction and a knowledge of many forms of sacred music. Additional qualities sought include excellent interpersonal skills, team-oriented, and the ability to work well with all ages and musical skills.

Worship is traditional in format, with openness to innovation and creativity. There is an opportunity for growth in the music ministry, both choral and instrumental. The church has a pipe organ (and organist), grand piano and Kurzweil keyboard and many fine musicians.

The ideal candidate will have a Bachelor's degree in music or commensurate experience. The position is approximately 10-12 hours/week with compensation based on experience.

Please send a letter of interest and a resume with three references to:

Lafayette United Methodist Church

Attn: Music Search Committee

955 Moraga Road, Lafayette, CA 94549

Email: lumc@pacbell.net; Fax: 925-284-5170.

More information is available on our website at www.thelumc.org.

TOWER NOTES

Julia White will be typing and formatting the next issue of the Tower Notes for the Hendersons. Email your articles to Ginny Cowden.



HELPING CHILDREN DURING WORSHIP SERVICE

On the Sundays in August there will be no Sunday School classes. There will be supplies at the back of the sanctuary to keep their hands busy. However, this would be a good opportunity to help them participate in worship.

Arrive before the service starts.
Choose seating where they can see the front.
Help children put markers in the hymnal pages for the songs of the morning.
Look over the bulletin together.

During the service -
Help children follow with the bulletin.
Have them stand when the adults stand.
Have them put an offering in the collection plate. Determine at home the amount that might be.

After the service –
Talk about what was said or sung.
What did your children hear? Clarify or interpret.
Sing one or more of the hymns or choruses again.
Review the “Children’s Message”.

During the week –
Invite friends to worship with you.
Read Bible passages and memorize short ones.
Pray together.
Create a “mission” project for the family.
Set aside money for Sunday offering.
Remind children that we respond this way because of God’s love for us.



STITCH-IN-TIME



The Stitch-in-Time group will meet on Thursday, July 31 at 1 pm in the Fireside Room. We are working on crafts for the Boutique in November. Please show up and bring a project or work on an existing project. No experience is necessary, we are teaching each other as we work. Everyone is welcome. Ginny Horner is the facilitator.



August

Happy Birthday

2 Carol Miller
3 Rebecca Teichmann
 Jessica Zischke
4 Shelley Harding
6 Frank Turpin
10 Michele Miller
11 Beth White
12 Raymond Heizer
 Sophia Loughran-Smith
13 Rod Levander

14 Mike Hobson
15 Jacob Partlow
16 John Eaton
 Paul Gendron
17 Nat Beeman
18 Debbie Nakamura
19 Evan Heptig
 Debbie Newcomb
 Jared Schroter

20 Zachary Dashner
21 Peter Heizer
23 Veryl Shaffer
24 Michael Gerringer
 Cindy Tornow
25 Jim Straw
29 Dick Black
31 Janine Crowe

Happy Wedding Anniversary

6 Chen Yin and Randy Noah
12 Leslie and Chuck Murray
14 Nancy and Jack Cotteral
17 Leiola and Richard Walter
18 Chris and Dean Coons
21 Ginny and Doug Cowden

AUGUST FOOD BASKET

The suggested food items for August are
baby food and cereal.

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



An Evening with Africa University Missionaries, Larry and Jane Kies Wednesday, July 23, 2008 7:00 p.m.

Pie and ice cream will be served
Walnut Creek United Methodist Church
1543 Sunnyvale Avenue
Walnut Creek

Please RSVP to the church office (925) 934-4208
A freewill offering will be taken

Larry and Jane are both missionaries of the General Board of Global Ministries assigned to Africa University, located just outside Mutare, the fourth largest city in Zimbabwe. Larry currently serves as technical advisor at the university assisting in the development of the university's farm and working to train a new generation of agriculturalists. Jane is currently teaching English at Africa University. They will provide information on the work being done in Africa. Here's an opportunity to hear how the United Methodist Church is in ministry around the world.



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.

FALL BIG EVENT!
Saturday, November 15, 2008
HIGH TEA – HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Watch for details! In the meantime do you have something that you would like to donate to the Boutique??? "Stitch in Time" is working on some crafts and sewing projects, but if you would prefer you can make your own ideas at home. If you have some extra time over the summer, and a creative idea, we would welcome it at the boutique! Just let us know! And watch for more details about the TEA! Ginny Leavitt 284-7857 or Ginny Horner, Stitch in Time – 284-9585



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



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	The Reverend Lori Sawdon
Pastor e-mail.....	Sawdon2@pacbell.net
Director of Music Ministry.....	
Organist & Keyboard/Pianist.....	Ken Mansfield
Office administrator.....	Lorri Sullivan
Joyful Beginnings Preschool Director.....	Dot Feist
Custodian.....	Jason Cano

TOWER NOTES

Editor.....	Ginny Cowden
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TOWER NOTES DEADLINE

2nd & 4th Thursday by Noon – Next Deadline **Thursday, July 24, 2008**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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