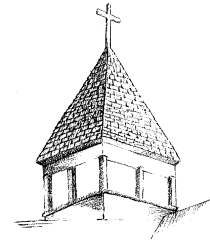


LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

July 27, 2008

SEEDS OF A SOWER

Several in our congregation shared in preparations for Bishop Beverly Shamana's retirement celebrations. I serve on the Episcopacy Committee, which has coordinated several of those events. I am grateful for your assistance in preparing gourd shards upon which members of the Annual Conference could write blessings. It was a most unique and memorable project. Bishop Shamana is a gourd artist. She recently told me that she has already used several shards in an art project she shared at an exhibit at the Western Jurisdictional Conference in Portland in July. David White recorded a video message featuring our choir which we sent to be included in an all-conference video. Leiola Walter made floral arrangements for a Conference staff dinner.

United Methodist Bishops are elected from among ordained elders in the church. They are elected at Jurisdictional Conferences, regional areas represented by an equal number of laypersons and clergy. Our California-Nevada Conference is one of six conferences in the Western Jurisdiction spanning from Colorado to Hawaii, and Arizona to Alaska. These conferences were held July 16-19. Two new bishops were elected to replace Bishop Shamana and another Bishop who resigned to become the General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Bishop Shamana's final day as the Bishop of our California-Nevada Conference is August 31. Her successor for our Conference has been appointed by the Western Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee. Bishop Warner H. Brown Jr., who has served the Denver Area for eight years, is returning to the California-Nevada Conference, where he served for 20 years as a pastor, district superintendent and conference council director.

The task of a bishop is a sacred responsibility and privilege. The authority of pastoral appointments resides with their office. They face the challenge of upholding the law of the church and the highest standards of our Christian faith. Given the decline of Protestant churches in North America, we need visionary, energetic, and prophetic leadership in order to keep the church faithful to our call in these changing times. Let us prayerfully support Bishop Shamana in her final weeks of active leadership. Let us pray for Bishop Brown and his family as they undergo a move and assume the leadership of our Annual Conference.

Blessings,

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.

EXPERIENCING CHRIST'S PRESENCE IN WORSHIP

August 3 Holy Communion

We conclude the book of Genesis with a reunion of Joseph, his father Jacob, and the 11 brothers as told in Genesis 45:1-15.

August 10 Rev. Donna Morrow DeCamp Preaching on Matthew 14:22-23

August 17 Rev. Gil Vieira preaching

August 24 Sierra Service Project Teams are leading worship, sharing their experiences in Loleta, CA; Rock Point, AZ; and Honduras

AROUND AND ABOUT LUMC

We sorrow, but not as those without hope, upon the death on July 9th of Fred Youngmans. A memorial service to celebrate Fred's life will be held at 3:00 p.m. on August 22nd.

THANK YOU!

The Worship Team wants to extend a big thank you to Marshall Steele Cleaners for cleaning the choir robes for the church at a big discount. We always appreciate community support.

M&Ms BARBECUE POTLUCK

Date: September 1st

Time: 3:00 p.m., with dinner at 5:00 p.m.

Place: Mary and Bob Hobson's home

Bring your swimsuit and towel if you would like to swim in the pool or take a dip in the hot tub. Call Mary at 284-7266 by August 24th for your food assignment.



Adventure Celebration

“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.” Joshua 24:15

What a great week we had at SonWorld Adventure Park! Songs like “Choose Jesus”, “Ten Men Were Saved”, and “I Will Hasten” ; games involving water balloons and beach balls; the Astro Jump Machine; teen dramas and Bible verse balloon pops; cuddly animals including baby kittens, dogs, chicks and a snake; glittery flower pots, bird houses, and visors; and delicious pop corn, nachos, and root-beer floats, all made for a happy week!

Bible stories illustrating God’s gift of choice to us – Jesus healing the blind man, Jesus healing the leper, Jesus forgiving and healing the paralyzed man, the rich young ruler, and Thomas recognizing Jesus and believing- were shared with the children in costumes, dramas, games, crafts, and snacks! We learned to CHOOSE TO BELIEVE, TO ACT, TO OBEY, TO FORGIVE, AND TO CHOOSE JESUS.

Early morning meditations, our fabulous brunch and then lunch for everyone afterwards, the Program Celebration and Ice Cream Social, collecting health supplies for homeless children at the Bay Area Rescue Mission, our beautiful handmade SonWorld Adventure quilt, funny early morning skits by the high school kids, our ride-of-your life yellow t-shirts, glitzy balloons, Bible verse puppet frog William, our Bibbity- Bobbity- Boo Cinderella with sparkling pixie dust, our very own Fairy Godmother MC, our excellent sound system and photography, Sunday morning service, and fabulous treasure chest/ pirate/Cinderella coach/rollercoaster/rocket ship decorations, all set the stage and contributed to a Spirit-filled week!

Field trips to the Contra Costa Food Bank to sort food, Futures Explored to host a party, Shelter Inc. to host a party, and an end-of-the-week swim party at the Kintners made a busy week for our middle schoolers.

One hundred and fifteen wonderful children and 20 great teens participated in our SonWorld adventure, making it our biggest ever! Sixty-five fabulous adults led the activities. Two over-flowing carts of health supplies were given to children at the Bay Area Rescue Mission! “Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.” Joshua 24:15.



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

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 come 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.

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.

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.

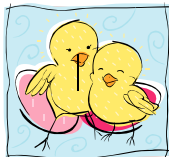
Read Bible passages and memorize short ones.

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.



Need Chicks?

2 - 3 week old chicks looking for a home. Call Renee at 283-6651.

INSIDE SCOOP ON SONWORLD VBS

"Jan Davis was absolutely wonderful as the new Music Leader!"

"Roseann Beeman did a superb job leading a 27 child PreSchool class!"

"It was our largest VBS ever - 115 kids and 20 teens, 135!"

"The weather was perfect - 75 degrees!"

"There was lots of patio and FH decor - pirate, treasure chest, rocket ship, Cinderella coach, Cinderella, cups, pirate ship mural, and roller coaster mural!"

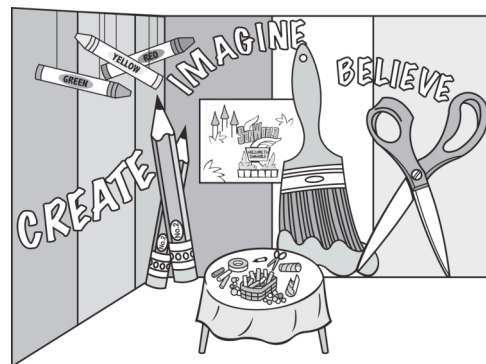
"The t-shirts were ordered, labeled, and distributed properly!"

"There was a big crowd at the Thursday night program!"

"Cinderella and her Fairy Godmother were actually there!"

"I can't get the words to those songs out of my head!"

"I couldn't do it without the lunch!"





Thank You

Thank you to so many who helped prepare and lead our VBS this summer.

Director	Sue Renno
Registration	Lorri Sullivan
Music	Jan Davis
Crafts	Karen Schroter, Jill Shibuya, Karin Husch, Lynn Rocksvold, Julia White, Gloria Pleis, Mary Hobson
Snacks	Janet Sategna, Nancy Flood, Lynn Sabatini, Sande Hubbs
Drama	Margaret Kintner
Games	Judy Stillman, Gavin Schroter
Storytellers	Preschool: Roseann Beeman, Helen Harding, Beth White, Barbara Peters, McKenzie Demos, Danielle Inzerillo
	K: Pastor Lori, Tiffany Grayson
	1: Ginny Horner, Jane Smith
	2/3: Pat Hershey, Leiola Walter
	4/5: Cathy VandenBerghe, Cyndy Gifford Palermo
	6/7/8: Teresa Gerringer
Animals	Renee Emerson – Liz, Kathleen, and Melissa Emerson
Lunch Leaders	Pat Doughty, Maureen Clark
Devotions	Pastor Lori
Sound	David White
MC	Margaret Kintner
Cinderella	Jessica Zischke, Shelby Davis
Puppet/Bible Verse	Spencer Davis
Skit	Judy Stillman – Hilary Smith, Jackie Miller, Spencer Davis, Gavin Schroter, Chris Kintner
Quilter	Maureen Straw
T-Shirts	Gloria Duffy
Ice Cream Social	Pat Doughty – Joe Darrell, Mark VandenBerghe, Paul Renno
Set-Up/Décor	Steve Breashears, Karen Chelini, Paul Renno
Muscle Men	Tom Henderson, Wendell Pleis, Greg Horner, Joe Darrell
Monday Sign-In	Pat Doughty, Carol Slatten, Maureen Clark, Nancy Flood

Sunday Service	Virginia Black
CD Producer	Dave White
Balloon Blow-Up	Greg Horner, Tom Kintner
Morning Set-Up	Greg Horner
Follow-Up	Karen Schroter
Th. Program MC, Photo Show Help	Mark Emerson
Tower Notes	Mary and Tom Henderson

Teen Helpers Marshall Danese, Shelby Davis, Spencer Davis, Jackie Miller, McKenzie Demos, Melissa Emerson, Danielle Inzerillo, Jessica Zischke, Sean Noah, Emily Shearer, Jeff Sawdon, Matt Ward, Chris Kintner, John Kintner, Jacob Partlow, Mary Renno, Gavin Schroter, Hilary Smith, Kathleen Emerson, Liz Emerson, Andres Del Valle

Lunch Helpers Julia White, Carol Slatten, Gloria Pleis, Carol Sebastian, Mary Hobson, Mary Teichmann, Chris Coons, Carol Lu Zischke, Debbie Newcomb, Catherine Sinnott, Ginny Cowden, Mary Henderson, Helen Harding, Nancy Lennstrom, Ellen Walters, Carol Zuckerman, Martha Cervantes, Laurel Hill, Celeste Graham, Michelle Miller, Jill Shibuya, Lori Loughran-Smith, Katherine Welcomer, Maureen Straw, Barb Falkenberg



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
 Computer Formatting..... Tom & Mary Henderson
 Mailing..... Fran Smith and Evelyn Clark

TOWER NOTES DEADLINE

2nd & 4th Thursday by Noon – Next Deadline **Thursday, August 14, 2008**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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