

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

January 25, 2009

SEEDS OF A SOWER

On January 20 it was exciting to experience the wave of hope and unity that splashed through our country. Riding the wave were people of all ages, races, and creeds knit together in solidarity. It was especially hopeful to witness the energy and commitment of young adults who will inherit the mantle of leadership in future years and who will reap the consequences of past and present actions. In spite of the dire situations we face economically, socially, and globally, they are not apathetic but are resolved to participate in a responsible way. That indeed is the call of our new President.

Christians are accustomed to being called to actively participate in situations of distress. Jesus did not protect his disciples from adversity. Staying true to his values and the will of God, he spoke truth to power and suffered the fall-out. He urged his followers not to shy away from sacrifice and action. Rather he encouraged them to step into the fray with fortitude and faith, lending themselves to change lives and transform the world.

It is a natural posture for Christians to act in solidarity with those who are suffering. As we move through this critical time in our world, nation, state, and community, let us be mindful of ways in which we can contribute to solutions. Let us be prayerful, listening to the Source of all Wisdom for guidance and discernment. Our Lenten focus beginning February 25 will be "A Prayer-Full Life," for prayer is a powerful tool we have been given to offer for the transformation of individual lives, communities, and the world.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori



A Theater Afternoon on Sunday, February 15, at 2:30 P.M. at the Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek will be organized by Barbara and Rod Levander for M & M's. (M & M's are any adults married or single.)

"2 Pianos 4 Hands" is a riotous tale of two boys, Ted and Richard, who share the same goal: concert pianist stardom. This includes pushy parents, eccentric teachers, hours of repetitive practice, stage fright, the agony of competitions and the dream of greatness. Accomplished as both musicians and actors, Mark Anders and Carl J. Danielsen portray the dizzy array of characters as well as show off their piano wizardry.

Join the Levanders at their home (3142 Indian Way) after the play for snacks and beverages. Call 284-7687 for reservations by Wednesday Feb.4 \$36.00 per person for a group of 10 or more (otherwise \$41).



ACOLYTE TRAINING

IF YOU ARE 3RD GRADE AND UP, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ACOLYTE, COME SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8 IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 10:30 SERVICE TO THE MAGGIE MAE LOUNGE.

SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED!!!!
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT JULIA HUSCH, 283-1455



Thank You

To everyone who expressed concern and sympathy through words, spoken and written, at the time of my sister's illness and death in December, I extend a great big THANK YOU. Your support is unending and greatly appreciated! I still want to personally thank the person who left a lovely plant on my front doorstep, but didn't sign the note.

Barbara Levander

February

Birthdays

1	<i>Leiola Walter</i>	11	<i>Sam Ghaziani</i>	20	<i>Nicole Dible</i>
3	<i>Josephine Jegoux</i>		<i>Bradley Miller</i>	21	<i>Tracy Davis</i>
	<i>Lucie Jegoux</i>		<i>Terry Miller</i>		<i>MacIver Follmer</i>
4	<i>William Breashears</i>		<i>Chen Yin Noah</i>	23	<i>Annika Shearer</i>
	<i>Joe Darrell</i>	12	<i>Julie Zischke</i>	24	<i>Jeanne Gianakos</i>
	<i>Paul Renno</i>	13	<i>Ginny Leavitt</i>		<i>Donna Walls</i>
	<i>Melanie VandenBerghe</i>		<i>Fred Youngmans</i>	25	<i>Del Kolbe</i>
5	<i>Lauren Corcoran</i>	14	<i>Robyn Corcoran</i>	26	<i>Lynne Rocksvold</i>
	<i>Mark Wendland</i>	15	<i>Catherine Sinnott</i>	27	<i>Greg Horner</i>
7	<i>Sandy Porter</i>	18	<i>Raymonde Crowe</i>	28	<i>Hanna Straw</i>
8	<i>Lisa Murray</i>		<i>Maddie McPhail</i>		
10	<i>Roseann Beeman</i>		<i>Jeff Sawdon</i>		
	<i>Ray Peters</i>				

Wedding Anniversaries

11	<i>Karen and Brian Chuck</i>
28	<i>Virginia and Wesley Thomas</i>



FEBRUARY FOOD BASKET

The suggested food items for
February are
soup and rice

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



Lent 2009: A Prayer-Full Life

Ash Wednesday, February 25, 7:00 p.m.

Taize Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Taize is an ecumenical community in France. This community's prayerful style of music through musical chants has become a moving spiritual experience around the world. This evening we will join in singing, prayer, and receiving the ashes that mark us as disciples of Jesus who desire to change our lives and grow in godliness.

The Way of Prayer

Small Group Experiences in Spiritual Formation

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Starting Wednesday, February 25 after the Taize worship

A daytime group will be offered; day and time will be announced soon

Is your prayer life feeling dry?

Do you wonder how to pray?

Do you long to pray in community with others?

These small groups offer an opportunity to learn and pray various styles of prayer. We will pray with music, pray by heart, pray by gaze, pray with our bodies, pray with scripture, pray for others, and more.

Sign-ups and books will be available February 1 at Friendship Time.

Lenten Quiet Day

Saturday, March 7, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Take time out from your hectic life to stop and reflect upon God's presence in our lives. We'll practice prayer together and center ourselves for the Lenten journey to the cross and resurrection with Jesus.



Seeking Housing and Hospitality for Covenant Players

Sunday, March 8 the Covenant Players, a Christian drama troupe, will be leading our worship services. We will need to provide lodging and meals for four persons on Saturday and perhaps Sunday evening. If you would like to host one or more of the Covenant Players, please let the church office know. They have interesting stories to tell about their call to ministry and their travels around the world with Covenant Players.

LIBRARY REVIEWS

MY COPE RUNNETH OVER by Adell Harvey

Yes, that title is spelled right! This is a book that might answer the question: "Can a Baptist preacher's widow with three children find happiness with a former Pentecostal preacher with four children.....and then add one of their own? " The Harvey-Farley family answers with a resounding "YES!"

Every problem you would imagine in a family of ten happens in the Harvey house, and MY COPE RUNNETH OVER hilariously covers them all.

REDISCOVERING GOD IN AMERICA

Enjoy this DVD of a walk through our Nation's Capital. From the National Archives to Arlington National Cemetery, this film illustrates the importance of our Creator to our nation's founders and their successors.

HOW TO HANDLE UNFAIR TREATMENT by John Bevere

This video is for you if your answer YES to.....

Have you been mistreated by someone in authority over you?

Have you felt misunderstood?

Have you been blamed for someone else's mistake?

Have you felt no one knew your side of the story?

Are you overwhelmed by all of this?

The video reveals Jesus' response to unfair treatment.



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	The Reverend Lori Sawdon
Pastor e-mail.....	Sawdon2@pacbell.net
Director of Music Ministry.....	Bunny Gruhn
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, Feb. 12, 2009**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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