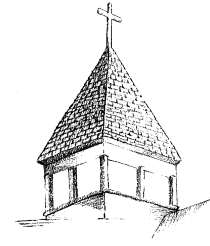


LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

March 16, 2009

Seeds

In this Lenten season of prayer, we are offering various opportunities to equip the congregation for growth in our life of prayer. Our choir and music staff led us in a meaning Taize Ash Wednesday service. Over 25 people are participating in small groups using *The Way of Prayer*. Our Tuesday morning prayer group is growing in number. Our Prayer Chain is actively used by members who call with concerns. Our Sunday worship programs now include ideas for personal worship throughout the week to follow up on the theme of one Sunday and prepare for worship the next Sunday.

Prayer is one of the practices of vital and healthy congregations. People who pray together grow in faith. Our corporate life is transformed when we pray about the items on a meeting agenda and seek to discern God's will regarding those issues, not simply our own. Our ministry is enhanced when we pray for one another, not only for those who are ill, but for those with whom we disagree or have personality clashes. A praying congregation is attune to the presence of God and desires to participate in the ministry God is blessing.

I've recently finished reading, *The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible*. A.J. Jacobs may not have been converted by his year of biblical practices, but he was changed. Although prayer was awkward for him at the beginning of the year, he grew into comfort the more he practiced it and he even began to reap the benefits of prayer. The commitment to an ongoing practice of prayer makes the difference.

He shares this story told by one of his spiritual advisors: Two men do their daily prayers while at work. One spends twenty minutes in his office behind a closed door and afterward feels refreshed and uplifted, like he just had a therapy session. The other is so busy, he can squeeze in only a five-minute prayer session between phone calls. He recites his prayers superfast in a supply closet.

Who has done the better thing? "The first," A.J. answers. "No," replies his spiritual advisor. "The second."

A.J. reflects, "The second guy was doing it only for God. He was sacrificing his time. There was no benefit to himself....Prayers are a good way to teach me the concept of sacrificing my time for the higher good." (p. 208)

May prayer change us, and through the power of prayer, may God use our energies for the higher good of all.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

UMCOR

One Great Hour of Sharing

Sunday, March 22

One Great Hour of Sharing is a special offering of the United Methodist Church to support the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). When a catastrophe occurs, UMCOR is on the scene to provide humanitarian aid of food, shelter, health care, and peace with those who are impacted by the crisis. Giving to One Great Hour of Sharing enables UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of designated gifts go to the specific causes. Unlike other mission programs, UMCOR receives no World Service or other apportionment money.



Linens Wanted

The Winter Nights Program has indicated that it needs new or gently used pillow cases, blankets and twin sheets. Perhaps you are doing your spring cleaning and discovered that you have more of these linen items than you need! If so, please bring them to the church office by April 12, 2009!

Round About

We sorrow, but not as those without hope, upon the death of former member, Ruby Banks, on February 25, supported by the loving care of her husband of 67 years, Bill Banks. Ruby and Bill were active members of the Lafayette UMC and helped build the educational building. They both have been active members of First UMC in Pacific Grove, where former LUMC pastor Mark Wendland now serves. A private celebration of Ruby's life will be held at the family home.

Cards can be sent to: 110 Forest Ridge Road, Monterey, Ca 93940 Email:

whbanks@yahoo.com

LUMC's ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

FRIDAY, April 18 AND SATURDAY, April 19 – 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m

PREVIEW PARTY for CHURCH FAMILY THURS. EVE. April 17– 5:30 –7:00 p.m.

PLAN TO BE A PART! Here's how – indicate as many ways as you would like to be involved! Set-up times will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Come for the amount of time that fits your schedule!) We hope to be all set up by noon Thursday, so bring those items in as soon as possible in the week!

_____ will donate items

_____ can pick-up items

_____ can help with set-up _____ Mon. _____ Tues. _____ Wed. _____ Thurs. _____ AM _____ PM

_____ can provide lunch for the all day workers _____ Mon, _____ Tues, _____ Wed. _____ Thurs

_____ can provide appetizers for Thursday Evening Preview Party

_____ can make punch/coffee – supervise refreshment table Thursday eve.

_____ will plan to attend Thursday's Preview Party (\$5 per person – workers receive Comp ticket)

_____ can help with the SALE _____ Fri _____ Sat _____ AM _____ PM

(This year we plan to have the SALE also during Friendship Time Sunday Morning for church families)

(Please fill out this form, drop it in the offering plate, turn it in to the church office, or just hand it to me

NAME _____ phone _____

MANY THANKS TO ANY AND ALL WHO CAN BE A PART OF THIS FUNDRAISING PROJECT FOR OUR CHURCH'S MISSION. If you have any questions, call Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857



EASTER BASKETS

Once again the United Methodist Women are planning to create Easter Baskets for needy children. Last year, with the help of the entire congregation, we were able to supply baskets for over 100 children. We hope to do the same this year. We would like baskets, small toys and books, toiletries, and school supplies to fill the baskets. There are two ways to take part; purchase items for the baskets and bring them to Church or fill a basket or two with your family and bring the completed basket to Church on or before our meeting day, April 2. The baskets will be distributed by the Food Bank.

Join us for the fun of packing baskets on Thursday, April 2. We will meet in the Fireside Room at 11:00 a.m. Bring a sandwich, drinks and dessert will be provided. If you have any questions, call Nancy Flood at 283-3409. Thank you.

APRIL FOOD BASKET

The suggested food items for April are **peanut butter and canned vegetables.**

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

APRIL



3 David Chow	13 Marisol Carrillo	22 Nick Kolbe
Tommy Renno	Barbara Tilton	Judy Stillman
4 Melissa Emerson	14 Ross Nakamura	24 Blanche Cancel
5 Karin Husch	Cole Robertson	25 Mackenzie Gerringer
Luke VandenBerghe	Kyra Robertson	Jack Rigger
7 Henry Lennstrom	21 Ann Kritscher	Brodie Zeigler
Alistair Shearer	Michael Tornow	26 Karen Brown
12 Colene Gruhn		28 Jacob White



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Sue and Don Kibby
- 26 Teresa and Michael Gerringer
- 28 Jane and David Smith
- 29 Robyn Roberts and Steve Morger

LOOKING FOR SUMMER FUN, SERVICE and SPIRITUAL GROWTH!

Check out these opportunities!

Vacation Bible School July 13-17 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Church Camps offered by the California-Nevada United Methodist Conference

Varied Dates – Great Locations – All Ages and families

Check out the website www.cnumc.org/camping

Volunteers in Mission needed in California, the U.S., and around the world

Check out the website www.cnumc.org and click the link to UM Volunteers in Mission

PRESCRIPTION GLASSES WANTED AND NEEDED

Your old glasses can be recycled! And since they will be recycled to a Third World Country, you know you have helped the effectively blind to see, which may allow them to work and support their



can

families.

Please bring your old prescription glasses to the church. There should be a Lions Club collection box near the entrance to the Fellowship Hall. Or give them to Lions Pat Porter or Kurt Teichmann. The March 21st Men's Breakfast Contingent is planning to clean and polish these glasses for distribution in the Third World. So get your old glasses and those of your nearsighted friends in now.

MONTE TOYON, ALL CHURCH RETREAT

APRIL 25-26, 2009

Former member of LUMC, SUE KING will be the inspirational leader.

Sue has three years of pastoral experience, a Master of Divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary and 18 years of corporate experience as a computer programmer. She and her husband, Warren, lived in the Middle East for more than two years where they enjoyed unique opportunities for cross cultural experiences and faith formation. They founded and operate the non-profit organization, Faith Exploration, which provides the public with additional opportunities for Christian Education. From 1984 until their move overseas in 1996 and Sue's pastoral experiences beginning in 2001 they were active members of the Lafayette United Methodist Church.

THEME: "RENEWAL OF THE HEART: More Than Illusion"

When renewing our hearts we often depend on light-hearted devices to demonstrate the serious side of life, the mechanical to illustrate our emotions, and the visual to reveal the unseen. The three sessions of "Renewal of the Heart" will investigate God's truths about the formation of our hearts through the fun, slight of hand, and demonstration of magic tricks.

A heart renewed under the guidance of God's graciousness is full of peace and is well prepared for all situations in life. Such a heart responds to life with goodness and is capable of bringing remarkable harmony to all pursuits and daily activities. The retreat sessions will explore the interaction of our endeavors with the unseen action of God. Together these influence and shape the depths of our being and impact all who cross our path.

Saturday Afternoon Session: "Addressing Our Wills"

Saturday Evening Session: "Addressing Our Needs"

Sunday Morning Worship: "Addressing God"

Registration form and fee schedule:

"RENEWAL OF THE HEART"
ALL CHURCH RETREAT
TO MONTE TOYON, APRIL 25-26

Starting MARCH 8.....YOUR PAYMENT is your reservation.
Bargains before MARCH 29!!

~~~~~Registration Form~~~~~

**FEES:**

Adults \$80 Child(5-11 yrs) \$50 Youth(12-18 yrs) \$60 Child(0-4 yrs) FREE  
Before March 29: Family of 3 \$195 (after 3/29 \$210)  
Before March 29: Family of 4 \$220 (after 3/29 \$240); each additional  
child \$40, additional youth \$50

**FINAL PAYMENT DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 10**  
(No refunds after April 19).

Payment attached: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **Lafayette United Methodist Church** (or LUMC). VERY  
IMPORTANT: write RETREAT in memo space.

Please give full name of all attending and AGES of children/youth for groupings.

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## **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**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday by Noon – Next Deadline **Thursday, March 26, 2009**

## **LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION**

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