

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# TOWER NOTES



Since 1855

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Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

December 6, 2009

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|                                                                        |
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| <b>Our New worship schedule of 10:00 a.m. continues all year long.</b> |
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## ***SEEDS OF A SOWER***

**An Advent Prayer**

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

The barren ground reflects my lifeless soul,  
drained of energy by overuse,  
aching for nourishment,  
cracked with pain from lingering hurt,  
strained by worry, heavy with uncertainty.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Deep in the soil of your love  
hibernating seeds of hope,  
holding the promise of a future,  
waiting to plant fresh roots of faith  
and sprout buds of a fresh beginning.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Nights lengthen, darkness overwhelms,  
shivering cold blankets the homeless,  
hurting people violently harm others,  
fear haunts a staggering economic recovery.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

A star emerges, shining a beam of light,  
radiating the warmth of kindness,  
integrating the pain of the past as learnings,  
revealing steps toward a healthy pathway forward.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Plant your seeds of hope to overcome our fear.  
Shine your brilliant light into the overwhelming darkness.  
Reveal your powerful presence once again. Amen.

*The Hopes and Fears of All the Years*  
*Advent/Christmas 2009*



***Dec. 13 Third Sunday of Advent***

9:45 Carol Sing before worship  
10:00 Worship "The Hope for Safety...The Fear of Vulnerability"  
Luke 3:7-14  
5:00 All-Church Soup Supper  
5:45 The Nativity Story movie on the big screen in Fellowship Hall

***Dec. 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent***

9:45 Carol Sing before worship  
10:00 Worship "The Hope for Love...The Fear of Loss"  
Luke 1:39-45  
5:00 All-Church Christmas Caroling to homebound members



***Monday, Dec. 21 Longest Night Worship Service***

7:00 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
For many, the holiday season is a difficult time. The pain of loss and loneliness are greater. We gather to remember loved ones who have passed and to lift other pain to God for healing.



***Thursday, December 24 Christmas Eve***

"The Hopes and Fears...are Met in Christ Tonight" Luke 2:1-20  
5:00 Family Worship Service  
11:00 Candlelight Worship with Chancel Choir and Special Music

***Dec. 27 Christmas Sunday***

10:00 Intergenerational Worship for all ages

***Jan. 3 Epiphany Sunday***

10:00 "The Hope of New Beginnings" Matthew 2:1-12  
Holy Communion



**FINANCE**

All receipts to be submitted for reimbursement must be turned in to the office by Dec. 29. The only exceptions are bills incurred for Christmas expenses (deadline Jan. 12) If you are submitting Christmas bills, please indicate by Dec. 29, the expected amounts.  
Thank you – Ginny Leavitt, Finance Chair

## TOWER NOTES HOLLIDAY SCHEDULE

### DUE DATES FOR TOWER NOTES ARTICLES January 7

We will be changing the dates for the Tower Notes for December and January. This will be the only December. The first January issue will be the first Thursday. We will go back to our normal schedule starting with the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in January.



We sorrow, but not as those without hope, upon the death of **Ruth Wilcox** on November 16. Ruth has been an active and vital member of LUMC since 1960. She participated in many ministries of social justice and outreach, including the settlement of a Vietnamese refugee family.

**Celeste Graham** shared a worship program from Canaanland Church in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia!

Congratulations to **Emily Shearer** who went to the state championships with Acalanes' Women's Cross Country Team. **Bo Walters** and the DeLeSalle Football team are advancing in the NCS playoffs.



### ***JANUARY FOOD BASKET***

The suggested food items for  
January are  
**Paper towels and  
baby food.**

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

# JANUARY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

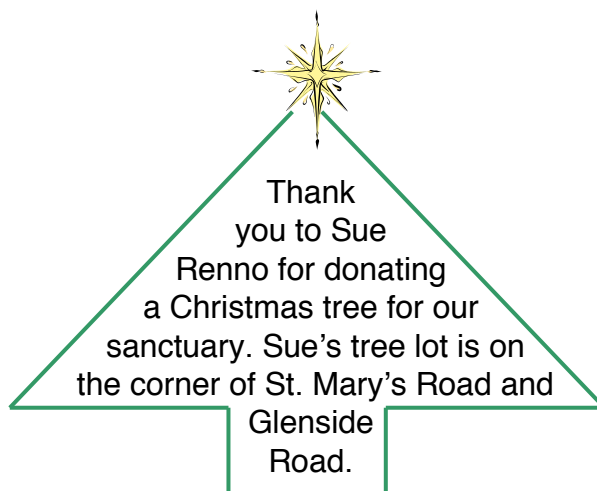
|   |                  |    |                   |    |                   |
|---|------------------|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 2 | Becky Straw      | 12 | Marcella Monopoli | 21 | Dave Holleman     |
| 4 | Sarah Newcomb    |    | Sue Renno         | 22 | Skye Dailey       |
|   | Alissa Scanlin   | 15 | Joseph MacDannald |    | Peter Husch       |
| 5 | Teresa Gerringer |    | Carol Slatten     | 26 | Nancy Lennstrom   |
|   | Celeste Graham   |    | Emily Slatten     | 27 | Selma Johnson     |
|   | Matt Keeble      | 16 | Wesley Unzicker   | 28 | Ian Walters       |
|   | Rachel Lennon    | 17 | Doug Cowden       | 30 | Ryan Chan         |
|   | Warren Makinson  | 18 | Kalia Johnson     |    | Paul Ghaziani     |
| 9 | Jim Brown        |    | Phillip Makinson  | 31 | Matthew Teichmann |
|   | Javier Marcus    | 19 | Qing Inglis       |    |                   |
|   | Carlton Walter   | 20 | Scott White       |    |                   |

## Happy Anniversary

|    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 4  | Ginny and Greg Horner |
| 5  | Laurel and David Hill |
| 7  | Julia and David White |
| 12 | Cindy and Tom Tornow  |
| 16 | Janice and Del Kolbe  |
| 19 | Sandy and Pat Porter  |



Is a new cell phone on your Christmas list? Remember to turn in your old ones to the Church. We can recycle for \$\$\$ for church programs. Keep those aluminum cans and plastic bottles coming, too. Have you renew your eScrip? All these little extras help us meet the needs of the church!



## **LUMC Leadership Development Event**

**Sunday, January 10, 11:30 a.m.**

A Light Lunch will be served  
Please RSVP to the Church Office 284-4765 or [lumc@pacbell.net](mailto:lumc@pacbell.net)  
All Committee and Ministry Team Members are encouraged to attend.

As the New Year begins, several in our church community have made the commitment to share their gifts and talents through leadership and membership on church committees and ministry teams. This leadership development event is an opportunity to build relationships and to grow in Christian spiritual leadership.

Topics to be covered include

- Ministry descriptions for various committees;
- General information helpful to church leaders;
- Resources to equip you for ministry;
- Decision-making as the Body of Christ.



## **Tape Available for Hanging Posters or Flyers**

We have special tape in the office for hanging posters or flyers on the windows around campus. If you would like to post something see Lorri Sullivan in the church office and she will give you the tape

## EXTRA BASKETS NEEDED

If you have any baskets that you would like to donate to the United Methodist Women please bring them to the church office. The women use them to fill and give out at Easter (to the Food Bank for children) and Christmas (to our homebound members).



## TOGETHER WE SERVE . . .

As the secretary of the Commission on Christian and Interreligious Concern of the California Nevada United Methodist Conference, Celeste Graham attended the "Celebration of Full Communion" between the United Methodist Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Negotiations toward this end have been ongoing for 31 years. Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr. and the Lutheran Bishop Mark W. Holmerud presided. The program consisted of combined choirs, a bell choir, brass quartet, sermon and communion. Representative clergy and lay commission members processed into the service that took place on November 15, 7 p.m. at First UMC Sacramento.



### 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

Thursday by Noon – Next Deadline **Thursday, January 7, 2009**

### LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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