

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

April 11, 2010

Seeds of a Sower

I hope that our Holy Week worship opportunities blessed you as they did me. We are blessed by exceptional musical talent with our Organist, Ken Mansfield; Director of Music, Bunny Gruhn; and our growing Chancel Choir of 20 members! Our Worship Team, led by Jan Davis, coordinated the Good Friday Journey to the Cross, which was experienced by several in our congregation as well as many from the community. I am grateful for the worship Team's willingness to experiment with a new venture. Linda Berti once again arranged the Easter lilies donated by many of you. Several shared plantings for the Easter garden, providing a colorful setting for our fellowship. Cheen Chow and her family, with the assistance of others, coordinated our Easter Brunch, providing radical hospitality for guests, newcomers to the church, and visiting family members. Behind the scenes our Office Administrator, Lorri Sullivan, and Custodian, Jason Cano, provide support services to all of our ministries. We are blessed by the varied talents and generous sharing of gifts in many ways.

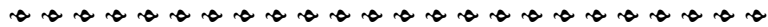
LUMC is one of over 370 local churches in the California-Nevada Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. We are under the leadership of one Bishop, Bishop Warner Brown. To assist him in oversight of these churches, we are divided into seven districts, each of which has historically been led by a District Superintendent. Due to the economic strains on our Conference, as of July 1, we will be served by four District Superintendents instead of seven. Our Bishop is seizing the current economic challenges to boldly lead our Conference in new directions. Key to that is reclaiming our missional focus of "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Bishop Brown will be holding a town hall on Saturday, April 17 from 10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m. at Asbury UMC, Livermore, to share his vision. Lay Leader Robyn Roberts and I will attend; others are welcome to join us.

One thing birthed as a result of this economic right-sizing is circuits consisting of neighboring United Methodist Churches. We are part of the Diablo Valley Circuit, composed of the following UMCs: Concord; Concord Korean; Lafayette; St. Mark's, Orinda; East Bay Formosan, Walnut Creek; First, Walnut Creek; Tice Valley, WC; Walnut Ave., WC; Bethel Chinese Mission, WC. Together these nine congregations serve 1,600 members. The ten pastors serving these congregations are meeting monthly. We are beginning to envision how we might resource one another for our disciple-making ministry, such as training opportunities; joint youth events; worship

services for special holidays, etc. We are launching this venture with a pulpit exchange on April 18. Worship at LUMC will be led by one of the circuit pastors while I am leading worship at another of the circuit churches! We invite your openness to the fresh opportunities the Spirit is providing.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori



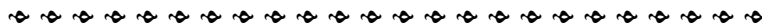
Confirmation Class Service Project: UMCOR Health Kits

Our Confirmation Class invites you to contribute to their service project. Health kits are given to those experiencing disasters. We welcome your donations of NEW items.

The following items must be NEW:

- hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", no kitchen towels)
- washcloth comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)
- adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages.

Cash donations will be used for additional supplies or shipping. A box is in the Fellowship Hall to receive your donations by May 1. Thank you!



FOOD DONATION BASKETS



Times are tough for many of our neighbors and friends here in Contra Costa County. In order to help alleviate hunger here at home, one of the easiest and most effective things we can do as a congregation is to make sure our food donation baskets are filled every week with non-perishable food items (canned fruits & vegetables, soup, boxed pasta, etc.) so that we might help The Contra Costa Food Bank keep their stocks up. Most of us here at LUMC have plenty of food and for that we should be thankful. We should also be thankful that we have this opportunity to help those in need. Please find the food donation baskets (one is located in the west entrance to church and the other has been moved to Fellowship Hall) and help us to fill them up!

***LUMC DINES OUT IN LAFAYETTE!
MEET, GREET, AND EAT OUT TOGETHER!***

Initial Gathering.....**Sunday, May 2, 6 p.m.**

EL JARROS
3563 Mt. Diablo Blvd
(A special menu will be provided! The restaurant is only open for us!)

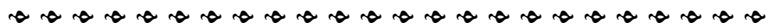
RESERVE EARLY!!! Seating is limited to 25!!

DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN BULLETIN



Call Ginny Leavitt – 284–7857 or email ginleavitt@att.net

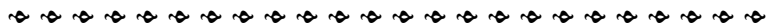
Sponsored by Fellowship Comm.



Socks for Soldiers Update

The Children's Buzz Groups (Sunday School) are still collecting change for their Socks for Soldiers drive. They have already collected over \$100! Wow! The kids will be collecting for this fine cause through May 2. Let's help the Sunday School kids with their efforts to make life a little easier for a few of our brave service men and women.

The collection jar is located in Fellowship Hall during coffee time or just give your pocket change to a Sunday School kid and they'll get it to the right place. Thanks!
John Alger



Thanks

Many thanks to Ginny Leavitt and her "garden team" - Linda Berti, Virginia Black, Dean Coons, Nancy Flood, Mary Hobson, Barbara Peters, and Julia White - for transforming the Fellowship Hall into a beautiful garden for our Easter celebration!

Thank you to all of the members of the Worship Team for their help in creating a very meaningful event, Journey to the Cross, on Good Friday. It was a moving experience, and we hope even more people will come next year.

A NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY FOR LUMC IN 2010: UPDATE



Signups are going well for the new pictorial directory of our church family. This directory, to be done by Olan Mills, will help us connect names with faces. We haven't had a new pictorial directory since 2005.

Please sign up to be photographed if you haven't already done so. For each family photographed at our church, LUMC will receive two "Olan Mills Dollars," coupons we can use to help pay for activity pages and extra directories for future new church members. Our goal is 103 family sign-ups. As of March 27, we have nearly 70 signed up.

The photography dates are May 5, May 6, May 7 and May 8. Signups following the morning worship service will continue through the end of April.

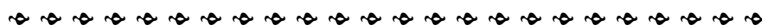
If you have a family member in the military service, Olan Mills offers a free directory page to honor those serving our country. Please give his/her photograph to me.

Other families not available for photography should also give me their photograph for inclusion in the "not available for photography" section of the directory. Some limited opportunities exist for photography at other local churches, if your family is unavailable on May 5-8 and wish to be included in the main section of the directory. Contact me to inquire.

In the meanwhile, please check your listing in the most current LUMC non-pictorial directory to be sure all your information is correct.

I've very excited about coordinating a new pictorial directory for LUMC and I hope all of you will participate. Our new directory won't be complete without you.

Laurel Anne Hill, (925) 254-9146



LUMC GOES to the As GAME!
Saturday, August 7, 2010



6:05 p.m. game with FIREWORKS afterwards
CHOICE SEATING!

Section 218 - Plaza Infield - Rows 8,9,10
\$20 each -- reserve early

Call Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857 or email ginleavitt@att.net



MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY 2010

Sponsored by Church Women United

Building a World Fit for
All God's Children

DATE: Friday, May 7, 2010

TIME: 10:30 am, Registration (no fee) and "Coffee

11:00 am, Program and Salad Luncheon please bring one salad for each 3 persons attending from a congregation. Note: Event to conclude about 12:30 pm.

PLACE: San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church, 902 Danville Blvd., Danville, CA

SPECIAL FEATURES:

- The Least Coin Offering
- Valiant Woman Award – honoring a special woman for service to her congregation, CWU and her community.
- Special Music
- "Praying, involving people and planning" to accomplish the impossible – Nehemiah skit
- Church Women United Ecumenical Register – an opportunity to "stand up and be counted"
- Please bring an offering for local charities
- Help the hungry by bringing a can or package of nonperishable food for the local food bank

Do you need Child Care? If so, contact Evelyn Ternstrom, 925-270-4301 by Friday, April 30 to reserve care. Questions? Please contact Evelyn or Chris Coons, 284-7386.

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PLAY GROUP

The Play Group (an informal play time for 1 to 3 year-olds, and a chance for the Moms to get better acquainted) will meet weekly in the church nursery, on a drop-in basis, on Wednesday mornings, starting at 9:30 a.m. Babies are also welcome.

Save the Date



**Come to Son Quest Rainforest
For the Adventure of a Lifetime!**

**We are excited about Lafayette United Methodist Church's
Vacation Bible Day Camp**

**to be held Monday-Friday, July 12-July 16, 2010
9 a.m. - 12 noon**

Ages 3-15

Cost \$50

955 Moraga Road, Lafayette

This summer, bring your kids to SonQuest Rainforest VBS - an experience of discovery they'll never forget! Based on five key Bible verses that will change a child's life - including John 3:16 - SonQuest Rainforest VBS transports young minds into a vivid rainforest environment of jungle sounds, sights and smells, where they'll dig into the Bible and meet Jesus in every day's story.

Theme verse: *For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

MAY

Birthdays

2 Marisa Monopoli Paul Persons	15 Jordan Rikken Mark Sawdon	25 Kelly Noah
6 Jeanette Shearer Victoria Tollen Daniel Zhang	17 Pat Stull	26 Marisa Chow Madeleine Trouerback
7 Maureen Straw	19 Jeff Dible Stephanie Schroter	27 Gilbert Vieira
9 Grace Alger Sarah Warner	21 Michelle Doughty Richard Walter Daniel Warner	28 Martha Gerringer Kennedy Kim Bryce Rikken
10 Martha Cervantes	22 Sande Hubbs	29 Christine Chia Nancy Sanders Greg Ward
11 John Alger Nicole Zhang	24 Alex Placzek Victor Smith	31 Ken Barton Carol Lu Zischke

Wedding Anniversaries

- 7 Lissa and Mark Heptig
- 13 Jackie and Mark Wendland
- 20 Teri and Mark Logan
- 29 Kelly and Peter Hartshorn
Lori and Mark Sawdon



TOWER NOTES ON LUMC WEB SITE

The Tower Notes is on our church's Web Site www.thelumc.org. You can download it for dialup or broadband.

Many people do not receive the Tower Notes by mail in a timely manner. Getting it on the Web Site you will not miss any events or news at LUMC.

Please notify the church office by phone 925-284-4765 or email lumc@pacbell.net if you want to get your Tower Notes on the Web Site and do not need it mailed to you.

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, April 22, 2010**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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