

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

May 30, 2010

SEEDS OF A SOWER

I was recently inspired by the story of one high school graduate. In the eighth grade he had a GPA of .2 – that's not a typo! His family was dealing with multiple issues, including homelessness. Focus on the children's education was a lower priority than finding food, housing, and clothing. The family was fortunate to become residents of the Garden Park Apartments run by Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, Inc. The story has a happy ending: This year he is graduating high school with a GPA of 3.7 and will attend classes at Diablo Valley College! This young man has also been employed by a construction company and by the Garden Park Apartments. He attributes his academic success to the Homework Club, part of the support system of the Garden Park Apartments.

LUMC is a supporting faith community of Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, offering a donation of \$250 per year. The organization serves families with special needs. The average annual income of the resident families is \$13,000. In addition to housing, multiple support services are provided to assist families in dealing with education, employment, health services, relationships, etc. Each family is guided by a staff social worker to set goals to improve its situation. Over its five years of serving families, the staff has seen significant progress in most families, even while they continue to struggle with multiple challenges.

The cost to provide these services per family is \$19,738 per year. Compare that to the cost of a child in foster care for a year, \$50,000, or in public care, \$200,000. Far beyond the financial benefits of providing permanent, affordable, supportive housing are the emotional and relational advantages of keeping families intact. The vision is to break the cycle of homelessness for future generations.

It was heartening to attend the May 25th annual meeting of Contra Costa Interfaith Housing and to rejoice in its remarkable ministry. There are multiple volunteer opportunities. Their website is www.ccinterfaithhousing.org.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

IT'S PICNIC TIME!



Please join the United Methodist Women for our annual picnic. We will meet at 11:00 a.m. on June 3, 2010 at the home of Mary Hobson, 106 James Place in Lafayette. Bring a salad or dessert to share with others. Drinks and rolls will be provided. Call Mary Hobson at 284-7266 or Nancy Flood at 283-3409 if you plan to come. Car pooling is recommended.

Bring a baby picture of yourself. We will post them secretly, then others will have the opportunity to guess which picture goes with which adult. Should be fun!!



HELP THE FOOD BANK AND HAVE FUN TOO!

Afternoon in the Admiral's Garden -Mare Island, Vallejo

Join stars from the hit Reality TV series, Survivor and other Bay Area celebrities for an afternoon filled with tropical food and fun. Sample a multitude of delicious award winning foods and beverages at the 10th anniversary of "An Afternoon in the Admiral's Garden" and help fight hunger in our community.

Sunday, June 27, 2010--12:00 - 4:00 pm
Tour the Admiral's and Captain's Mansions
800 Walnut Avenue--Mare Island, Vallejo
\$65 per person (\$120 for two)
Gourmet lunch, tasting tents, entertainment, live auction

See or Call Barbara/Rod Levander, 284-7687 for information and reservations.



CONFIRMATION CLASS MAKES 101 HEALTH KITS!

Thank you, LUMC, for your generous donations to the Confirmation Class Service Project. The youth were able to make 101 Health Kits for distribution by the United Methodist Committee on Relief in times of disaster and need. We appreciate your support.

Confirmation Class of 2010

GRILLED HAMBURGER FEST LUMC FATHER'S DAY PICNIC



JUNE 20
AFTER CHURCH SERVICE ON
THE PATIO!

A-G bring chips to share
H-M bring veggies to share
N-Z bring brownies or cookies
(all finger food, please!)

A donation will be asked to cover
cost of hamburgers!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS EXCITING MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

Light refreshments will be served in the courtyard
following the recital

Megan Elise Berti

Mezzo Soprano in Recital,
Assisted by Elizabeth Morgan

Saturday, June 26, 2010, 2 p.m.

Sanctuary Lafayette United Methodist Church
955 Moraga Road, Lafayette



SUNDAY BUZZ GROUPS

Attendance awards for the spring quarter went to Tucker Loughran-Smith, Jacob White, Russell Alger, Lindsey Logan, Hannah Carter, Rafael and Javier Marcus and Conner Chia.



SUMMER WATERING

When/If the rain stops, we will have need for a few folks to lovingly water plants around the church campus that do not have the aid of the sprinkler system. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. We would be grateful if you would lend some time to water these areas 2-3 times a week, depending on the weather. Thank you.



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*

JOB AVAILABLE: SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN

LUMC is looking for a substitute custodian to cover the custodian's vacation. There also may be opportunities to assist the custodian with major projects, such as waxing the floors. Responsibilities include cleaning restrooms, vacuuming carpets, mopping floors, set up tables and chairs for events, etc. Depending on level of activity, hours would be between 15-30 a week. The hourly wage is \$12/hour. Applications are available in the church office.



Round About LUMC

ROD and BARBARA LEVANDER vacationed in Hawaii, where they worshipped at the Koloa Missionary Church.

Methodists of the Month Honored with M & Ms - **LAUREL HILL and KAREN SCHROTER** are coordinating our new Olan Mills pictorial directory. They have been diligent about recruiting as many people as possible with phone calls, after worship sign-ups, and emails. We appreciate their efforts to have over 120 family units represented in our directory.

LESLIE MURRAY has offered her professional organizing skills to clean out and organize the church kitchen, office cupboards, and other misc. closets and storage areas. We appreciate her efforts to clear accumulated clutter and make room for current activities.

SCOTT LOUGHRAN-SMITH, owner of Construction Plus, was contracted by the Trustees to do several projects at the parsonage, including a new kitchen hood/fan, insulation, removal of old furnace registers, bath fan. Scott's crew was efficient and he offered a nice discount for the church.

ENJOY A LUMC EVENING OF FUN EVENT!
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE A's BASEBALL GAME
AND FABULOUS FIREWORKS SHOW ON
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7 starting at 6 p.m.!



How about a father/daughter outing, mother/son?? Grandparent/grandchild? And MYF event? Been wanting to do something with another person/s from church and never quite get around to arranging something? Now is a good opportunity! And a ball game with a crowd is always more exciting --- so let's make those reservations now! We have seats on hold in Section 218 – rows 8, 9, and 10 right behind home plate – so you, too, can call those balls and strikes!! A perfect location for both the game and the fireworks!) Tickets are \$20 each, and you can make your seat selection when you turn in the money to Ginny! Getting to the stadium is easy on BART – and inexpensive, especially if you are a senior or taking a 12 or under child! You can bring in your own food – or there are oodles of opportunities to buy there! Just remember no glass bottles or cans! For questions or reservations, call Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857 or email at ginleavitt@att.net



SOCKS for SOLDIERS CHANGE DRIVE COMPLETE

The Socks for Soldiers change drive was a great success! SS children collected \$285, enough for 22 pairs of Super Soldier Socks to be sent to the soldiers in C Troop, 1-91 Calvary currently stationed in Afghanistan. The following message was written on the gift card sent with the gift:

Please accept these socks on behalf of the SS kids at the UMC in Lafayette, CA. We've been collecting change from the grownups and ourselves since February and collected enough to buy 22 pairs! Hope you like them! Thanks soldiers!

Good job Sunday Schoolers! You've made some of our soldiers very comfortable. And very happy, too!

Mr. Alger

Director of Youth Ministry Lafayette United Methodist Church

We are seeking an enthusiastic, dynamic, faith-filled director of an active youth ministry for up to 40 middle school and high school youth. Our mission is to assist youth in experiencing the love of Christ and expressing it in their daily lives.

The Director of Youth Ministry coordinates

- Sunday morning Christian education;

- Sunday evening youth groups with fellowship, food, recreation, programs;

- Local service opportunities;

- Communication of youth events.

Hours: 20 hours per week

Start Date: July 1, 2010

Salary: \$20,800 a year

Contact: Rev. Lori Sawdon

Interested applicants should send a resume and letter of interest to:

Rev. Lori Sawdon
Lafayette United Methodist Church
955 Moraga Road
Lafayette, CA 94549
Phone: 925.284.4765
FAX: 925.284.5170

Welcome, Confirmands!

On Pentecost Sunday we had the joy of receiving eleven confirmands into the membership of Lafayette United Methodist Church.

Lauren Chuck, an 8th grader at Stanley, is blessed with the gifts of being nice, outgoing, and happy. She is a musician, playing the flute and saxophone. She likes to serve by helping others in need and volunteering.

Anna Davis also attends Stanley, finishing the sixth grade. Anna offers the gifts of teamwork and kindness. Her favorite sport is soccer. Anna serves by doing one nice thing a day.

Morgan Faries, completing the 8th grade at Stanley, offers the gift of trustworthy and kind friendship. She is a dancer, recently performed at the Leshner Center in Oklahoma. She likes to serve by working with children and organizing food.

Julia Husch is completing her first year at Stanley. God has gifted her with happiness, fun, and music. She serves by helping with the children.

Kennedy Kim, a 7th grader at Stanley, brings the gifts of friendliness and responsibility. He plays the trombone. He likes to serve by praying to God and participating in activities.

Kate Kintner has participated in Odyssey of the Mind since 2nd grade! She is an artist, actor, and team player. She likes to serve in the church and babysits.

Peter Kintner, finishing the sixth grade at Stanley, brings the gifts of kindness & joyfulness. He has a talent for acting. He likes to serve at church by speaking, decorating, and singing.

April Logan will be entering the eighth grade at Stanley. Her gifts include kindness and the arts, including music and drawing. She likes to serve by greeting and helping others.

David MacDannald is preparing to attend Acalanes next year. He brings a bright personality and loving spirit to our church. He enjoys working through Sierra Service Project and organizing projects such as the UMCOR Health Kits.

Marissa Monopoli is in the seventh grade at Joaquin Moraga. She brings the gifts of joy, caring, and a warm smile. She plays the cello and enjoys acting.

Kalene Elizabeth Sanders will soon be promoted from Stanley. She offers the gifts of happiness, helping, teamwork, and organization. She likes to serve by praying and volunteer. She is a long-time Girl Scout.

EASTER OFFERING THANKS RECEIVED

From Louise Bourassa, Executive Director, Contra Costa Interfaith Housing

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH), to thank you and Lafayette United Methodist Church for the donation of \$234.00....

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing is celebrating its fifth year of providing permanent supportive housing to formerly homeless families with special needs. It is gratifying to witness the tremendous stability and progress that Garden Park families have experienced. We have seen our youth succeed in school, graduate from high school against all odds, and develop into people who look to the future with hope. Our parents feel the pride of having a home, improving their lives, and many enjoy the satisfaction of employment and advanced education.

CCIH is actively seeking a site for a second apartment complex, much like Garden Park Apartments, in order to serve many more families in need.

CCIH's member faith communities have been the cornerstone of our success. Without the vision, prayer, and volunteer and financial support of our member faith communities – permanent housing with well-executed on-site services would not be available to our families. With so many needs in the world, we do not take your support for granted! Thank you for Lafayette United Methodist Church's ongoing commitment to CCIH and the people we serve.



LAFAYETTE SENIORS

The Lafayette Seniors Recreation Center has bi-monthly meetings and welcomes anyone over the age of 50 to join us for lunches held at the Lafayette United Methodist Church on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month. The 2nd Thursday is a Birthday lunch where we honor everyone who has or is about to celebrate a Birthday that month. We serve a hot lunch, presently catered by Susan of Creative Catering and the lunch is subsidized for members at \$7 per plate cost. Reservations are to be made no later than Wednesday noon by calling Shirley Jennings at: (925) 283-3874. The cost for non-members is \$10 per plate, but still requires a reservation, although we will order a couple of extra plates for this meal.

This month's lunch is featuring former KTVU favorite Anchorman for the Morning News, Mark Curtis, whose down-home style of reporting the news won a loyal following amongst viewers in the Bay Area. He was very active in the surrounding communities, known for volunteering to appear and sponsor charity events as a \$0 cost to the non-profits. The luncheon starts at 12:00 noon and is held in the Fireside Room at the church.

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, June 10, 2010**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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