

LAFAYETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER NOTES



Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

June 27, 2010

Seeds of a Sower

Recently I completed a survey for the United Methodist Church. A central focus of the survey was the active participation of attendees beyond the worship service. Here are the unscientific results of the survey for LUMC:

- 199 adults attend worship on a fairly regularly basis;
- 77 children and youth attend worship on a fairly regular basis;
- 276 total number of people attend worship on a fairly regular basis;
- 182 of those attending worship also participate in other ministries;
- 66% of our worship attendees also participate in additional ministries of the church.

I was heartened by the numbers. If you are involved in one area of the church life, you may not be aware of how many other people are serving in other areas. Acolytes, actors, greeters, Friendship Time hosts, small group members, choir members, Food Bank workers, counters of the Sunday offering, worship liturgists, ushers, Sunday school teachers, Sunday school helpers, prayer chain members, Youth Ministry Team members, committee members, nursery helpers, and more. Many are involved in projects that require a short-term commitment: a building repair, providing food for an event, making phone calls, taking photos, etc.

Many of those who attend worship but are not able to do so due to age (babies and toddlers!) and health or energy limitations. However, they are engaged in the community of faith. We all go through seasons when we must be less active and receive the ministry of the Body of Christ.

We are blessed to be receiving a variety of gifts from a great number of persons. I am grateful to all who are actively sharing their talents and expertise to further the ministry of Jesus Christ. I pray that all who are worshipping and serving are blessed by our mutual ministry.

I am grateful to be pooling my gifts with yours for a seventh year of ministry together.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

Summer Worship at LUMC – *The Stories of Jesus*

In coordination with the Vacation Bible School's focus on the parables of Jesus, our worship life this summer will focus on Jesus' parables from the Gospel of Luke. A parable has been referred to as "an earthly story with a heavenly meaning."

Join us for worship at 10:00.

July 4 Communion Luke 16:1-13 Parable of the Shrewd Steward/Dishonest Manager

July 11 Luke 16:19-31 Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus
Commission VBS Team and Sierra Service Project Team

July 18 Vacation Bible School Sunday

July 25 Jazz in July Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 Parable of the Lost Son

August 1 Sierra Service Project Sunday

August 8 Communion Luke 18:9-14 Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector

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CHILDREN'S SUMMER SUNDAYS

During June and parts of July children (Pre-K-5th grades) will meet in Room 5 after the Children's Message. Veggie Tale videos with lessons in Biblical values will be shown and projects/games will complete the hour.

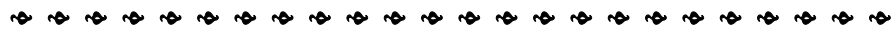
2 Adult Helpers are needed for July 4 and 11. Please contact Barbara Levander 284-7687.

July 18 all children are invited to stay in the Sunday service which will be lead by the Vacation Bible School children. There will be NO classes for Pre-K-5th grades.

July 27 Families are invited to worship together in Fellowship Hall for the Jazz in July service. There will be NO classes for Pre-K-5th grades.

SONQUEST RAINFOREST Vacation Bible School Day Camp

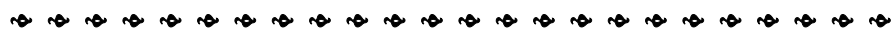
For those of us who live in suburbia, rainforests remain mysterious places full of exotic plants, intriguing insects and beautiful animals. Scientists are eager to discover the mysteries of this world of beauty and danger because it is full of cures for diseases, clues about weather patterns, and other vital discoveries! In much the same way, Jesus used parables to inspire His listeners to seek the truth that lay beneath the surface of His words. The parables are God's exciting way of helping listeners discover new insights into His plan for life. Join us the week of July 12 - 17, at LUMC, for fun, games, stories, songs, crafts, dramas, and snacks, as we experience the rainforest and learn of parables! For children ages 3 - 8th grade, 9 - noon, \$50 each. Sign up now, 284-5173. Invite a friend!



The LUMC Sierra Service Project Youth need your help!

On Sunday, July 11th this year SSP participants will be commissioned for their service project trip to Klamath, CA. If you would like to donate supplies for their trip the following items are needed at the site: paint roller covers, blue tape, dust masks, goggles, hard hats and Gatorade mix. Thank you to our generous church family members for their donations to this year's trip!

We are looking for 1-2 vans or SUVs to borrow for our upcoming summer SSP trip to Klamath, CA. Do you have one you are willing to lend or trade? We would need it Saturday, July 17th to pack up, leave on our trip Sunday, July 18th and return it to you clean and full of gas on Sunday, July 25th. We will be traveling approximately 800 miles total. It may be possible to trade cars with one of our driver/counselors. Please let us know if you can help. Contact Karen Schroter <mailto:schroter5@astound.net> schroter5@astound.net or 945-6845.



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.



Summer Vacation Photos!

We're preparing a slide show of YOUR summer vacation to show our church family on Homecoming Sunday, September 12! Submit up to five photos with your family names and vacation location. Digital photos of the highest quality may be emailed to David White at dandjw@comcast.net. Print photos may be given to David or left in the church office for scanning; they will be returned to you



LUMC's NIGHT AT THE A's CHANGED!

Because of National TV coverage, the MLB has switched the A's game on Saturday, August 7 to an afternoon game! Those LUMC people already with reservations for the night out at the ballpark have opted to switch to Friday night since the Fireworks have been switched, and we don't have to worry about too much sun! There are a few seats in our section available, so if you would like to join the gang, call Ginny at 284-7857 or email ginleavitt@att.net, as soon as possible, by mid-July at the latest!



ENDOWMENT GRANTS 2010

The endowment committee is pleased to report the Grants for 2010.

From the Outreach Fund: \$250 for the Costa Rica VIM project.

From the Retreat Fund: \$250 for the Church Annual Retreat.

From the Inreach Fund several Grants:

- a. For Trustees: \$1,132 for a new stand alone campus map.
- b. For Youth ministry: \$400 for contemporary language Bibles.
- c. For The Church Retreat: \$250 for expenses and scholarships.
- d. For the Worship Commission: \$255 for a Nativity Scene.

We are blessed that our church has Endowment Funds available for Grants.

JOYFUL BEGINNINGS!

Know someone looking for a preschool with reasonable rates? Just had a new neighbor with little ones move into the area? Joyful Beginnings, our own preschool, has some availability in all three session - T, Th for 3 year olds, MWF for the 4s, and PreK (5 days) for the 5 year olds or nearly 5. The Preschool can be reached at 284-1143, or call Ginny Leavitt - 284-7857, for more information. Joyful accept children who will be 2 1/2 by September 1. (The child does not need to be potty trained.)

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LOOKING AHEAD TO FALL and our ALL CHURCH FUNDRAISER Boutique and Luncheon - Sat. Nov. 6

This is your opportunity to share some of your talents! Stitch in Time has made many items - neck warmers, zipper pulls, scarves, purses, cardholders, knit hats, etc., BUT there will be plenty of need for something that you might like to contribute - crafts? wooden items? pottery? note cards? jams and jellies? baked goods? Give it some thought, think about the church project during some of those idle moments this summer, and get started on your idea now.... Indicate what you would like to contribute to me - Ginny Leavitt, 284-7857 - ginleavitt@att.net --- or simply fill out the form below and turn it in to the church office.....

I will make _____ for the Fall Fundraiser.
Name _____ Phone _____

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READING FOR FUN AND LAUGHS: NEW BOOKS

McPherson Goes to Church, Cartoonist John McPherson adds his bizarre twist to the familiar scenes of parsonage, podium and pews.

Less Than Entirely Sanctified, Doug Hall's cartoons illustrate what real life is like for those who are earthly saints.

Church is Stranger Than Fiction, Mary Chamber's cartoons appear in magazines such as Christianity Today, Leadership and The Christian Century.

For Beginning Readers....."Superstar Charlie", "Simon Minds His Manners", "Tell the Truth Tyler", "Samantha Stays Safe"



SUMMER WATERING

With the end of the rainy season, 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.



APPRECIATION RECEIVED FOR SPECIAL GIFTS

Recently a donation for “local needs” was received and directed toward Shelter, Inc. A letter was received from Tim O’Keefe, Executive Director:

I cannot begin to express how much I appreciate your generous support of Shelter, Inc.. Your decision to donate to SHELTER, Inc. means so much to the families we support in our mission to “prevent homelessness and promote self-sufficiency among low-income residents of Contra Costa County.” To our families it can mean the difference between a warm bed and food on the table or another cold night in the creek bed and hungry children...

Last year, SHELTER, Inc. served nearly 5,200 individuals, including more than 2,500 children. Your support will help us prevent families from becoming homeless, and, for those who have become homeless, provide services and housing to help them stabilize as they work toward self-sufficiency.

To view a short video and read stories about some of our clients, visit our website at www.shelterincofccc.org.

Another special gift of \$1,000 was directed to Heifer Project International through the United Methodist Committee on Relief. “Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,000 to support family livestock programs around the world.”

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

*The California-Nevada Annual Conference of
The United Methodist Church
Celebrates with*

LAFAYETTE
United Methodist Church



*The payment of
100% of Apportionments and Asking
in the year 2009*

Warren Brown, Bishop

*Rev. Renae Extrum-Fernandez,
District Superintendent*

J. Diane Knudsen, Conference Treasurer

April 14, 2010

United Methodist California-Nevada Annual Conference

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

The 162nd Session of the California-Nevada Annual Conference began on June 16th with the Opening Plenary Session called to order by Bishop Werner Brown. As always, the music and worship services were superb, this year led by Dr. Marcia McFee. The special guest of the first two days was Bishop Robert Schnase, author of Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. He delivered three addresses that were extremely well received and announced the sale of his new book, Five Practices of Fruitful Living. LUMC has studied the Fruitful Congregation book for the past year. Bishop Schnase's third address challenged us all to evangelize opportunistically. Always be willing to discuss your church and your relationship with Jesus to everyone you meet. He gave several excellent examples of how this works. Bishop Brown emphasized the "Four Areas of Focus" for the next four years. The church will seek to focus the work of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world around these areas of ministry: Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally; Engaging in ministry with the poor; Creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations; Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.

Wednesday night, the entire body celebrated communion led by Bishops Brown and Schnase. Thursday morning the work of the Conference began in earnest with sections discussing and voting on legislation. Celeste again served as secretary of one of the

legislative sections. As usual, there were several Resolutions and Recommendations regarding social justice issues, but this year the major issues revolved around the direct billing of active clergy pension costs (now included in apportionments) and the discontinuation of several churches including Corning, Dunsmuir, Rising Hope of Alameda, Faith of San Leandro, and Hamilton in San Francisco. These items eventually reached the floor of the plenary and were all passed.

In addition to the ongoing legislative issues the Conference celebrated the lives of clergy and their spouses who died since the last Conference and then celebrated a Reaffirmation of Baptism. Our church contributed over \$1000 to the Ethelou Talbert Shelter for Girls in the Philippines. Also throughout the sessions reports of committees were presented, awards were given by the Bishop, budget issues were debated and the Fixing of Appointments was read. Again, we were thrilled that Pastor Lori was returned to LUMC. The new ordinands were introduced and we saw some old friends. Gil and Dottie Vieira were seated very near us and we were delighted to see that Dottie has made a good recovery from her recent fracture.

Throughout the Conference and at the Bishop's Reception we were encouraged to "Imagine No Malaria" by texting (\$10 donation will appear on phone bills) and buying tickets to the youth basketball competition. Pastor Lori was an active member of the committee in charge of the Bishop's Reception.

Celeste and I thank you all for making us your Annual Conference members.

Carol Slatten



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, July 8, 2010**

LUMC CONTACT INFORMATION

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