

The Methodist Messenger

In the Spirit of John Wesley

*“Bringing faith into life by loving God
and all people as God loves us”*



2016

First United Methodist Church
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Notes for the Journey

Our understanding and our experience of God shapes our image of God and our spirituality. Who is God? Where do we find this God of ours? If we look at the Hebrew scriptures (Old Testament) we will find the Divine Presence is everywhere, always moving and always calling to people wherever they may be. If we look at the Christian scriptures (New Testament), we find a significant addition: this Divine Presence has made a home *in us*. Jesus used the image of the vine and the branches to emphasize that the same life that surges through all parts of the plant is similar to the life of God that surges through our being. God is no longer just “out there.” God is also here, within us. The spirit of Jesus lives on in our own bodily temples. We have become the home of God.

Some days I go zooming along, checking off all the “stuff” I have on my “to do” list, and I totally forget that I am the home of God. When this happens, I can easily lose my reverence and my awareness of all the beauty around me. On the other hand, when I remember that God has made a home in my heart and in the heart of each one I meet, I am able to look at people and life quite differently. I am more patient, and much less judgmental.

As you move through the next few weeks, brush off the old dust and cobwebs caused by busyness and non-attention, and become aware of how God travels with you.

Blessings,

Pastor Cynthia Stateman



Dazzle and her Guide Dogs For The Blind Puppy Raiser, Jan Franke, thank our church family for your assistance and love in helping Dazzle prepare to go back to the San Rafael campus where she was born and where she will continue her journey.

I will take her there on May 7th for her physical and evaluation to become a Guide Dog Breeder (in which she is in competition with her three sisters), or to go on to attend college to become a Guide Dog.

We ask for your prayers that she passes her physical (much more thorough than a human one) and that she becomes a breeder or graduates from college and becomes the perfect match guide dog for a blind person.

Thank you!

DAVE RAMSEY'S

FINANCIAL *Peace*
UNIVERSITY

Financial Peace University is a life-changing 9-week program taught via DVD by Dave Ramsey. This program empowers you to achieve your financial goals regardless of your financial situation.

It's a fun, easy to understand, and entertaining way to learn how to make your money work for you!

This program will be offered on Tuesday evenings from May 10th to July 5.

- ◆ The cost per family will be \$93 to the general public.
- ◆ Cost for families in our church—Free of Charge! *
- ◆ Cost for families outside the church referred by someone in the church \$45.

This program is open to members of our church and the community.

You can sign-up through the Church Office or website.

Spread the Word!



EMERGING DIVERSITY?

How much do you know about your neighbors who sit in church every Sunday? How did they become your co-worshippers?

Coming soon will be a four session workshop on “Diverse Disciples”. The goals in part will be to enjoy the fellowship as well as to learn to accept members of the church who hold different views of their spiritual journeys than yours.

*The sessions will be on
Wednesday evenings
May 18, 25, & June 1, 8
from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
with a free light supper.*

Roy Randles

Someone is needed to do the
Children’s Time on May 8th and
May 15th.

Please call the church office ASAP
if you will do one or both Sundays.

WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

Worship Coordinator

May 1: Cat Barclay
May 8: Chris Payne
May 15: Andrea McDonald
May 22: Peggy Gregory
May 29: Cat Barclay

Lay Worship Leaders

May 1: Cat Barclay
May 8: Sue Hensel
May 15: Carol Collar
May 22: Jan Franke
May 29: Vicki Beeman

Greeters

May 1: Jetta & Glen Lenox
May 8: Mary Durham
May 15: Diana & Lily Boone
May 22:
May 29: Chris Payne

Ushers

May 1: Verne Adams, Mike Bertaina
May 8: Creed Cavazos, Mike Bertaina
May 15: Creed Cavazos, Mary Durham
May 22: David Beeman, Jim Gregory
May 29: David Beeman, Bob Junell

Counting Team

May 1: Sue Hensel, Andrea McDonald
May 8: Vicki Beeman, Patty Ferrell
May 15: Sue Hensel, Karen Shoemaker
May 22: David Beeman, Jim Gregory
May 29: Verne Adams, David Beeman

Coffee Hour

May 1: Delfa & Roy Randles
May 8:
May 15: Diana & Lily Boone, Jetta &
Glen Lenox
May 22: Wyman Family
May 29: Chris Payne

At FUMC Hanford, we take the vows of membership very seriously. We have promised to uphold the United Methodist Church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Please keep the following in your prayers this month:

Prayers of Health Concern

Cat Barclay, Mike Bertaina, Jim Taylor, Patty Ferrell, Mike Pina, Jan Junell, Marilyn Peden, Andrea McDonald, John Meadows, Pepper Ramsey's son Hunter, Kathleen Wilson, Ellie Wagner, Carol Collar's Mother - Francy Angstman (assisted living and is in declining health), Pastor Susan's parents Helen and John Foster, Larry McDonald, Gloria Brown, Peri Neos, Alison Klein, June Kruger, Louise Card (West Gate Garden Care, 4525 W. Tulare. Visalia), Marie Wiles (Kingsburg Center 1101 Stroud Ave. Kingsburg, CA 93631)

Other Prayer Requests

- John Meadows grieving the passing of wife Penny Meadows
- Ed Dwyer grieving the passing of his mother
- Marie Wiles grieving the passing of son Frank Wiles
- Firefighters, Police Officers, Ambulance and other first responders
- Laundry Love ministry, Salvation Army Food Giveaway, Shower Ministry, and our food offerings to the Soup Kitchen
- 1st Christian's Rev. Tom Warren & family
- Those in the midst of crisis, tragedies, disasters, accidents and conflicts
- For caregivers and those caring for their parents
- The Noonan, Castanon & Wilson Families
- Ministry Support Team & Board of Discipleship
- Thanksgiving for all the church volunteers who give so graciously of their time and talents. We are the church!



The C.A.R.E. Foundation has an office in Visalia and exists to provide information and tips to families dealing with a family member who is developing that age-related dementia that we often call Alzheimer's. The foundation wants to take the stress and panic out of having a family member have Alzheimer's. At the April dinner/meeting of the UMM, Steve Nelsen spoke to us about what to expect as the Alzheimer's progresses and shared lots of those helpful tips. He reminded us that as of now there is no cure for Alzheimer's and none of the drugs popularly advertised actually slow the disease.

Why do more women than men get Alzheimer's? We don't know. Why do some people die from Alzheimer's within a year of diagnosis, while others linger for a decade? We don't know. He shared these daunting challenges while emphasizing that the C.A.R.E. Foundation collects new developments daily published by those treating, caring for and researching Alzheimer's and those affected by it. He reminded us that just because we lose some cognitive memory starting at age 30, it doesn't mean we have Alzheimer's.

We heard about five stages of Alzheimer's. Probably the most difficult is the third stage, where you have gotten used to doing things for this family member, but in this stage sometimes they can remember, but sometimes they can't. So you go and start to help, but they get upset and say, "I can do that myself!" By the 4th stage, when things seem unfamiliar and threatening more often, you can't really take your family member out to a restaurant. You probably already learned by then that when you do, you have to order something you know they like, because the menu is too unfamiliar to deal with.

Steve reminded us to be sure our End-of-Life preferences are written down ahead of time. C.A.R.E. has the latest forms to be sure those are recorded with the right people. He reminded us most of all that these family members are still themselves – just as they were as children, as teens, as newlyweds. Still themselves, now dealing with another situation in life.

It was a lot to take in and I just have to reflect how God blesses all of us in so many different ways. We need to be the hands and feet of Jesus, and the ears as well, both to those who are going through Alzheimer's and to those caring for family members with that condition. Steve left brochures about C.A.R.E., but an easy way to contact him is at www.alz-care.org

The next UMM dinner/meeting will be Monday, May 9th, at 6:30 PM. Call or e-mail me so I can give Bob Peden a good dinner count.

- David Beeman, 584-2911 dpbeeman@yahoo.com



We had a potluck lunch at Hannah's House on April 1st. Jetta Lennox set it up for us. After lunch, some of the ladies shared their life stories and how being at Hannah's House has

helped them. A big thank you to Jetta for this great idea.

Our annual Spring Luncheon was held Saturday, April 16th. Unfortunately, the attendance was quite low this year. But those who were able to come, we enjoyed a delicious lunch, with lots of salads, and even better entertainment from Bob Peden's barbershop quartet.

In last month's newsletter was comments from some of the ladies who attended the UMW District Retreat in Oakhurst in March. I also was blessed by attending. Though I have to admit, I still haven't done the "homework" our speaker encouraged us to do.

There is still time to register for the Mission u events. The first one will be August 5-7 in Merced, August 13 in Visalia, August 20 in San Rafael, and August 27 in Roseville. See Andrea McDonald for registration forms and scholarship applications if you are interested.

The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, May 10th at 1:00 pm. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Our next General meeting will be Sunday, June 12th, following the worship service.

Feel free to contact me, any of our UMW board, or the church office if you have any questions about any of the meetings.

----- Vicki Beeman (584-2911)



5th Sunday Sing

May 29th, 3:30 pm

Here at First UMC Hanford

You are invited to a time of singing and fellowship with area United Methodist Churches!

Food will be provided by our congregation in a potluck style so please sign-up with Candy if you can help out.



Canned Food Drive

For the
Episcopal Church
Soup Kitchen Report:

This is a great opportunity
to help in our community

but will not be possible without your support,
so please join our church in this battle against
hunger. **Please no expired items.** There's a
container in the main entrance where you may
drop off your donations. Thanks again and
God bless!

Shower Ministry

For the Homeless at The Hanford
Pentecostal Church has been wonderful.

**Thank You to everyone who has
donated.**

We will continue to collect in the coming
months. Put items in the Narthex.

Needs: *Shampoo, Tooth Brushes,
Toothpaste, Talc or Baby Powder, Terry
Bathmats*

Peden's Family Cookbook
For Sale \$20

Makes a great gift this holiday
season! Books can be purchased



LAUNDRY LOVE IS A COOPERATIVE
EFFORT AMONG SEVERAL CHURCHES IN
OUR COMMUNITY TO OFFER A REGULAR
OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE
STRUGGLING FINANCIALLY TO COME
AND DO THEIR LAUNDRY. LAUNDRY
LOVE PROVIDES SOAP, MONEY FOR THE
MACHINES AND FELLOWSHIP.

Our next Laundry Love event is
planned for **Thursday, May 19th**
from 3-8 pm.

Volunteers are needed! Talk with
Peggy Gregory or just come on by!



Mission Service Opportunity

Friday, May 20th,
8 am - 12 noon

Salvation Army 380 East Ivy Street

Join us in helping distribute fresh food to
those in need
in our community.

Volunteers are needed!
Many hands make light work!

Ministry Support Team (MST)

MST is the leadership group in our
church that is tasked with caring for
our resources; money, staff and
building.

Next Meeting:
Thursday, May 12th at 5:00 pm

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MISSION U and READING PROGRAM

There are Four Mission U events coming up. The weekend one is Aug 5-7 at UMC in Merced. There are scholarships available for this event, see me for scholarships applications. The one day events are Aug 13 in Visalia, Aug 20 in San Rafael and Aug 27 in Roseville. I have applications for all these event.

I have ordered more books for the church library. These books are bought through our own UMW for the reading program. I encourage all women to read these book. The five areas are Leadership, Education for Mission, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth and record your readings on the paperwork that I have. The more ladies we have involved in the reading program the better. The books are very interesting and informative. I recently read "Miss Brenda and the Love ladies, it was one of those can put down books until it was finished. There are other books already in the church library, so go check it out. Thank you, Andrea McDonald 559-360-4477



HOLY YOGA
with Pastor Cynthia on Sunday, May 22nd at 4:00 pm
in Mary Lane Hall

Central Valley District California Nevada Annual Conference UMC

Dear Friends of Hanford First United Methodist Church,

It is with joy that I send you recognition of 100% Conference Tithe paid for 2015. Your faithfulness to our connectional ministry continues as an important ongoing witness to the call of Christ within our United Methodist connection...

We are able to do more together than we can do separately. Your support is a visible witness to that truth.

Again, thank you for all that you do on Christ's behalf.

Sincerely,
Rev. Debra Brady, District Superintendent

WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY

The offer of an Oboe stop for our organ was presented to me by Tom DeLay. The stop is coming out of a church in Monterey. It is 5 years old- which in organ years is brand new. He said, "This stop would make an excellent addition to our organ in place of the horrid sounding Vox Humana stop. The Oboe will provide a wonderful sound for the organ and make it much more appealing for organists to play."

The cost is not cheap. Brand new, the stop would run about \$10,000 (+ shipping) installed. They are willing to sell the 61 oboe pipes for \$3,000 with another \$2,000 to install.

Talking to other members of the church we have decided to go ahead and have it installed. I said that I will once again start having monthly luncheons, once a month, to help in defraying the cost. This would take about 8 months to raise the required amount but we are hoping and praying that members of the church and community would help with a private donation to the project.

Thank you and may God Bless you,

Bob Peden

