



FINE LINES Notes from Pastor Pam

Dear ones,

I am rather fascinated with time. Oh, not enough to study either science or math (Heaven knows!) but from a ... philosophical ... point of view. A religious point of view? And I'm thinking about it now, as we prepare to enter another new year.

It always gives me a little shiver to remember that the measuring of time - whether it's minutes, or weeks or years - is purely a human thing. It's all very logical (and elegant, some say) and helpful for organizing our daily lives, but it's still a human thing, not a God thing. There's a joke that says God invented time to keep everything from happening at once. And I like it! But, even as it's best that everything doesn't happen at once, I wonder whether God's time really includes a future, or a past. Or whether it is simply the ever-present. The all-ways.

That would suggest to me that God doesn't really care that we're about to start a new year. After all, I don't

think God is that concerned with something we might start in January, say, but end in December. But what I think God - the God we know in Christ - does care about is starting something new - whatever day or time it is. New birth, but not of something that's measured, like a year. Perhaps the birth of a new era - a time that is less about a schedule and more about ways of being.

So, maybe we won't make New Years resolutions. But maybe we could each start a new era. A new era of peace and understanding. A new era of thanksgiving and generosity? Perhaps it will be a new era of commitment - and that could be commitment to forgiveness and relaxation as much as expectation and accomplishment!

I think starting a new era sounds "kinder and gentler" than starting a new year. A new era in our lives. A new era in our church. I'm willing - how about you?



We've been having trouble with the telephone at church. If you've not been getting an answer during office hours, we apologize - and thanks for your patience! It'll be fixed soon.

FINANCIAL REPORT - November, 2011

	<i>Monthly Actual</i>	<i>Monthly Budgeted</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>YTD* Actual</i>	<i>YTD* Budgeted</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Income	\$24,87	\$29,123	(\$4,249)	\$219,339	\$235,552	(\$16,213)
Expenses	\$16,508	\$20,024	(\$3,516)	\$214,565	\$234,596	\$20,031
Difference	\$8,366	\$ 9,099	(\$ 733) \$	4,774	\$ 956	\$ 3,818

*YTD = Year to Date

Average Attendance in Sunday Worship: 92

EMBRACING AN ADULT FAITH
~ ON WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN:

Join Pastor Pam for a class based upon this material from Marcus Borg. We'll meet on Thursday evenings from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM. The class is five sessions, and will begin on Thursday, January 26th, continuing through the Thursdays in February. Books will cost \$13 each (if you can't afford a book, just speak to Pastor Pam), and are available from Amazon and Barnes & Noble. If you'd like Pastor Pam to order yours, let her know. Pam would like everyone to have their books by Sunday, the 22nd, so that you can read the first chapter before the first class.

Dear Ones,

Thank you so much for your abundant generosity - always, of course - but especially in the Christmas season. Our family appreciated the many gifts, cards, and that "special surprise" from all of you more than you will ever know. I look forward to 2012 with you!

Blessings,
Pastor Pam



To the Congregation of the Aptos
United Methodist Church

I would like to thank everyone for the many get-well cards and wishes of well being. The number of cards I received was unexpected but nonetheless a nice surprise. So, thank you and I wish everyone pleasant holidays.

Sincerely,
Michael Burklund

Thanks to all of you for the many, many prayers and cards and emails and calls of support this past year during Jim's illness. You provided a shoulder to cry on and kept me from utter despair more than I want to admit. Thank you for everything.

Cindy Jackson

January Birthdays

- 1 Ruth Nichols
- 14 Dan Weeks
- 17 Suzanne McCourt
- 25 Evan Fiorovich
- 26 Mike Sampson
- 29 Steve Green
- John Dodson
- 31 Barbara Symons

January Anniversary

- 16 Clyde & Sheila Vaughn

Book Club Plans

Monday December 16th at 2:00 PM

We will discuss the book " The
Pleasing Hour" by Lily King

Hostess: Kay Willcox
Reviewer: Laurel Blaney

The ACUMC Book Club meets at 2:00 PM on the third Monday of every month. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Laurel Blaney (477-7550) for more information.

(calendar)



Aptos Community United Methodist Church

"The Church Worth Finding"

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM
Church School at 10:30 AM
Child Care Available 10:15 - 11:45 AM



January Worship Schedule

Jan. 1st Communion
Text: Isaiah 61: 10-11

Jan. 8th
Text: Matthew 2: 1-6, 9-12
Theme: Epiphany

Jan. 15th
Text: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10

Jan. 22nd
Text: Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

Jan. 29th
Text: Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The UMM will be meeting at the church, Saturday, January 14th at 8:00 AM, to kick off the 2012 year. Breakfast will happen as usual. Continuing our discussions on water, Mike Sampson will do a light presentation on water and wastewater treatment technologies.

Please Pray For:

Paul Sweet & Family, Cindy Jackson, Chris Loosely, Beth Hinton, Velma Greyell, Kay Willcox, Wendy Baker, Sarah Talbot, Greg Smith, Ken Doolittle, Peggy Roll, June Dyer, Fern Lindahl, Bill & Connie Moore, Hannah-Lyn Edwards, and Cliff Nichols

