



Aptos Community United Methodist Church

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*Presents:*

## **A NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS LOVE**



221 Thunderbird Drive, Aptos

**The Christmas Cantata “Night of the Father’s Love”**

by Pepper Choplin will be performed by the Aptos UMC Choir,  
with dramatic reading, and candlelight.

A time of festive refreshments, carols and fellowship will follow,  
featuring singers and bell ringers!

**ADMISSION IS FREE**

*A Love Offering will be taken during the performance*

# FINE LINES Notes from Pastor Pam

Dear Ones,

Our practice is to have the Tide ready to distribute to you on the last Sunday of the month. And the last Sunday of this month (November 28<sup>th</sup>) is a special day ... the first Sunday of Advent. Advent, meaning “coming ...” or “the arrival of something long awaited.” The example given in my on-line dictionary for this long-awaited thing is, “the advent of the *computer*.” Ah, how quickly they forget! Computer?? A rather pedantic interpretation, don’t you think? We of the Christian persuasion recognize in the word “Advent,” something else long-awaited, something much more profound, and that is Jesus. That is “the messiah,” the “savior.” Computer?? Sheesh!

I do find it interesting, though, that words derived *from* “Advent” apparently don’t carry with them that same implication of expectation ... and waiting. In fact, they convey almost the opposite. For example, I like to think of the journey through Advent as a kind of “Adventure.” A journey into the unknown, perhaps, doing (or looking for) something new and unexpected. Like a place ... or a situation ... that you’ve never experienced before, something that is life-changing, and transformational. And I like to think of someone who is “Adventurous” as someone who has that spirit of “Adventure” – one who is interested and willing to *embrace* the unexpected, to *have* new experiences, new life. Advent connotes something quiet. Adventure is exciting ... risky.

Perhaps whoever thought up the words “Adventure” and “Adventurous” recognized that “Advent” really *is* just the beginning. The time of preparation. Planning the journey (even if

the plan is to *not* plan too much). Learning new skills (reading the stars ...). Arranging for transportation (a Cougar? a camel?) Packing the right gear (camp stove? courage?) But when the Big Day comes, the real Adventure begins.

The Israelites waited. And waited. And then, the Big Day came. The messiah was born. And what he brought was so unexpected! It was certainly a “journey into the unknown” for them. Before Jesus, religious authorities expected their people to be bound by rules and social convention. Rulers and leaders (even the messiah they were imagining) were sly, powerful warriors. Discovering that *this* savior was as gentle as a baby, a peacemaker rather than a conqueror ... and living with that reality ... living *according* to that reality – *was* risky. And exciting.

It’s not that different today. We ourselves often find that we are bound by rules and social convention. We admire the warrior. (There’s even talk about “prayer warriors” these days.) We are dumbfounded by the suggestion that the Way to new life is through peace and compassion rather than cunning and power. But there it is. A new, transformational way of life.

So, I invite you to use this Advent season to prepare. For that new life. Plan for it. Gather up what you’ll need. And when the Big Day comes (and the presents have been opened and the relatives have gone home), don’t wait anymore. Muster up the courage. Get going. You do have a guide, after all. He is with us. God is with us. Emmanuel. (And Merry Christmas!)

## FINANCIAL REPORT – October 2010

	Monthly Actual	Monthly Budgeted	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted
Income	\$23,641	\$18,799	\$187,699	\$187,985
Expenses	\$15,702	\$20,300	\$187,876	\$202,339
Difference	\$ 7,939	(\$ 1,501)	(\$ 177)	(\$ 14,354)

**Please bring your pledges up to date!!**

Average Attendance in Sunday Worship: 102

## *December Meetings*

**Trustees:** Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM  
**Church & Society:** Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM  
**Finance:** Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM  
**PACT:** Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 11:30 AM  
**UMM:** Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 8:00 AM  
**UMW:** Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 11:30 AM



## *Everyone loves a party!*

Please join us on **Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** after Church for an “Advent Event.” We’ll have a pot luck lunch, maybe sing some carols, and then the fabulous and talented Connie Moore will lead us in making our own lovely evergreen wreaths. You need to bring a wire hanger and, if you have evergreens at home, you could bring some clippings to share. We will provide extra greens, ribbon, small decorations, and Connie’s expertise. There will be a clipboard circulating at Church to sign up if you intend to make a wreath. Don’t forget to bring a dish to share.

As if that weren’t enough, the newly formed Mission Team will be presenting an opportunity for Christmas “Alternative Giving.” Look for a table staffed by members of the team for more information.

Good food, good friends, a Christmas wreath made by your own hands, and an opportunity to make Christmas brighter for others.....What could be better?

### **“SCROOGE”**

Our own Lexi and Jacob Baker will be among the performers in this musical version of Dickens’ “The Christmas Carol.” How about we get a group together to go to the Preview Performance on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>? If we get a Group Rate, it’s even less expensive (\$24). Starting time is 7:30 PM. Let Pastor Pam know if you are interested so she can get tickets.

For more info, go to [www.cabrillostage.com](http://www.cabrillostage.com).

### ***Did you know?***

Jingle Bells" was first written for Thanksgiving.

In Greek, X means Christ. That is where the word "X-Mas" comes from. Not because someone took the "Christ" out of Christmas. .

# **Christmas Alternative Giving Faire**

## **Scheduled for Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>**

Do you find Christmas gift buying more a chore than a joyous opportunity? Are you struggling to find the perfect gift for Aunt Susie? Do you want to help your grandchildren better understand what Christmas should really mean?

ACUMC has the answers. After church on two Sundays, December 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> you will have an opportunity to select a gift that keeps on giving and present it to a loved one.

The ACUMC Christmas Alternative Giving Faire will provide you with four different opportunities to donate to a charity in honor of a loved one. You will receive a card to give to each person you honor, and the card will state that you have made a donation in his or her honor. Donations may be made for any amount, which is not listed on the card, unless you so choose. This is a project coordinated by the new Mission Team and is intended to help us share the true meaning of Christmas.

### **The Alternate Giving Charities for this year are:**

#### **Second Harvest Food Bank:**

Second Harvest feeds 50,000 Santa Cruz County people each month. Each \$1 gift will provide \$8 worth of food distributed to a family because Second Harvest buys in bulk. A \$25 gift would provide \$200 worth of food. A \$100 gift would provide \$800 worth of food! A gift to Second Harvest in honor of a family or individual is a wonderful way to acknowledge your love for those who already have plenty of food.

#### **The Bicycle/Helmet Project of UMM:**

The UMM is soliciting new or gently used bicycles and helmets to present to Head Start children and their parents. While the children may use the bicycles to get to school and around the neighborhood, the parents without cars will use them to get to work. A gift to this mission outreach will go toward the purchase of a new bicycle or helmet. The gift of a helmet would be a perfect way to honor someone that already has a bike.



#### **Covenant Relationship with Missionary Katherine Parker:**

United Methodist missionary Katherine Parker met recently with ACUMC members to describe her work in Cambodia. In early 2011 there will be a campaign to raise funds so that ACUMC may enter into a covenant relationship with Katherine, supporting her work in Cambodia. However, you can participate in this campaign before it officially starts. You may make a donation in honor of someone to support the covenant relationship with Katherine. Any amount may be contributed. This would be a special way to honor your spouse or another ACUMC member, making them part of the special relationship that the church will be developing with Katherine.



#### **Heifer International:**

Heifer provides animals for families in need throughout the world. You may choose to donate toward an animal or give the whole animal. A gift of \$20 purchases a flock of chickens. For \$30 you may get honeybees. A gift of \$250 buys a water buffalo. There are approximately 20 different Heifer gifts from which you may choose. Heifer catalogues will be available to help you in selecting a gift. This is a great gift to make in honor of a child.

## ***Adopt-a-Family for Christmas***

This year the Church and Society Committee is sponsoring our Adopt-a-Family for Christmas program. The agency we've decided to support in this is Above the Line, which is headquartered here in Aptos.

Above the Line suggests these guidelines when buying for children:

- For teenagers: \$100 gift certificates from The Mall, this allows them to shop for what they need.
- For younger children: Provide a complete outfit (shirt, pants, socks, shoes, winter jacket).

These gifts are most likely going to be the major part of each child's holiday.

There are two families we've decided to adopt. Here are the details of what each family needs/wants:

### **Family #1**

- **Philip:** age 1 year; size 2 clothing, size 5 shoes; toys: anything Elmo and other age appropriate toys.
- **Abigail:** age 3; size 4 clothing, size 9 shoes; toys: purses, dress up, baby dolls
- **Cristos:** age 2; size 2-3 clothes, size 5 shoes; toys: cars that make noise, balls, age appropriate toys
- **The Family:** movie tickets, restaurant gift certificate, Kohl's gift card

### **Family #2**

- **Denise:** age 16; mall gift card
- **Madelyn:** age 2; size 2-3 clothing; size 9 shoes; age appropriate toys
- **The Family:** movie tickets, restaurant gift certificates, Kohl's gift card.

There will be a Christmas tree or giant decorated box with tags you can pull off to claim which child or family you wish to help provide with a wonderful Christmas. These foster families do a lot to provide safe, secure environments for children whose lives have been in crisis. Thank you for your help and generosity.



## ***CHRISTMAS PROJECT FOR THE WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTER***

UMW members are inviting church members to join us in providing needed items for the Women's Crisis Center as a holiday gift. These items include: toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand soap, shampoo, hair conditioner, socks, hand lotion, pocket-size sewing kits. Please bring them to the church by December 5<sup>th</sup>. Any and all donations are much appreciated by those at the Crisis Center. If you have any questions, call Barbara Symons at 439-9390.



# Autumn Artisans Faire

## Contributors

### INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous  
Mike & Jean Beebe  
Marcia Burns  
Jana Daley  
Pat Doolittle  
Jeff Favorite  
Teresa Fehr  
Jennie Green  
Jane & Steve Green  
Velma Greyell  
Rich & DeAnne Hart  
Jillian Holmberg  
Jim Hillgren & Cindy Jackson  
Lee MacDonell  
Ken & Diane McElroy  
Betty Nuss  
Joyce & Glenn Pearce  
Mary Ellen Rusch  
Rosemary Rydin  
Anne & David Scott  
Hazel Smith  
Peggy Stames  
Kate Sutherland  
Barbara Symons  
Charles Ernest & Joanne Tanner  
Netha Thacker  
Clyde & Sheila Vaughn  
Vicki & Rodger Wasson  
Kay & Forrest Willcox  
Jean Williams  
Dick & Pam Wood

### BUSINESSES

Adoriables  
Alfaro Family Vineyards  
Alladin Nursery  
Boulder Creek Golf & Country Club  
Brian Iles Unique Birdhouses  
Britannia Arms  
Cafe El Palomar  
Camas Designs  
Carlisle Toffee, LTD  
DeerHaven Soaps  
Designs by Janeen  
Gloria Oneto Designs  
Hair We Are  
Hunter Hill Winery  
IB BAYO Wearable Art  
Jeri Bodemar  
Joan Blackmer  
Just Pampered  
Kirk McCarthy Niobium Jewelry  
Landon Electric  
Mackerilla Design  
Mary Tegankamp Children's Clothes  
Mike Beebe Pottery  
Pacific Cookie Company  
Palm Deli  
Postage Stamp Art  
Quality Water of Aptos  
Ristorante Italiano  
Roaring Camp Railroads  
Roberta Lee Woods  
Roudon-Smith Winery  
Santa Cruz County Symphony  
SC Mountain Wine Growers Association  
Sew Unique  
Silver Spur Restaurant  
Smith's China Shop  
Staley's Swim Ranch  
Starbucks Coffee  
Sticks and Stones  
Sunrise Santa Cruz  
Surf City Coffee  
Suzanne McCourt Studio  
The Turning Point  
Toffee By the Sea  
Windward Hair Design

# Autumn Artisans Faire Volunteers



A warm 'thank you' to ALL our volunteers for the Autumn Artisans' Faire. What a great weekend! I hope this is a complete list. If you notice anyone whose name is not included please let me know. The finances for the weekend are nowhere near complete, and we did make money. But as someone said, that is secondary to the fellowship and the joy of sharing with talented artists, great lunch (wow, the soups and desserts), a chance to pick up some wonderful buys at the Silent Auction and great music. THANKS TO EVERYONE!

## *Clyde*

Dick Allen  
Wendy Baker  
Jean Beebe  
Cheri & David Bihn  
Laurel & Bob Blaney  
Boyd Brown  
Dan Burklund  
Marcia Burns  
Pat Carr  
Carolyn Collins  
Kathleen & Ken Cook  
Susan Cooper  
David Daley  
Jana & Bill Daley  
Maggie Deacon  
Pat Doolittle  
Debbie & Hank Eaton  
Austin Elliot  
Amanda Favorite  
Melissa Favorite  
Jeff Favorite  
Teresa & Skip Fehr  
Bill Fennell  
Pam Fine  
Dan & Dave Frazier

Jenny Green  
Jane & Steve Green  
Velma Greyell  
DeAnne & Rich Hart  
Pharis Harvey  
Jim Hillgren  
Beth Hinton  
Jillian Holmberg  
Kathleen Hoaglund  
Roger Houston  
Deb Huffman  
Wally Ingram  
Cindy Jackson  
Sid Jackson  
Jenna Kaysen  
Peggy Kaysen  
Ruth Landmann  
Susie & Murray Lewis  
Shannon Lindahl  
Anita Little  
Joe MacDonnell  
Georgia & Charlie Mackh  
Cathy Martin  
Chet Martin  
Diane & Ken McElroy

Russ Menk  
Helene Milner  
Nancy Moody  
Connie & Bill Moore  
Betty Nuss  
Holly Ota  
Joyce & Glenn Pearce  
Shelly Post  
Michele & Dan Rossi  
Drew Rossi  
Ivan Rusch  
Sue & Mike Sampson  
Anne Scott  
Kate Sutherland  
Keri & Roger Swenson  
Joanne Tanner  
Linda Thiering  
Ukulele Band  
Sheila & Clyde Vaughn  
Vicki & Roger Wasson  
Susan & Dan Weeks  
Kay & Forrest Willcox  
Pam & Dick Wood  
Darrell Yeaney

## **HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE**

We will be supporting the Second Harvest Holiday Food Drive again this year with canned food and funds. Here are some Food Facts:

Fact: \$1 donated provides 4 meals.

That's pretty amazing when you think about it. Four meals for a buck! The Food Bank has such remarkable buying power and that is why they would really prefer checks rather than or in addition to canned goods.

Fact: Our Food Bank provides much needed food aid to over 50,000 people in Santa Cruz County every month.

Fact: Half of those receiving food from our Food Bank are children.

Fact: Requests for food at the Food Banks have increased by 30% in the past year.

So please bring some canned goods and/or a check to support the Holiday Food Drive. You may make your check payable to ACUMC and indicate Food Drive or Second Harvest on the memo line.



### ***Grey Bears***

Rich Hart reports the need for a helper to deliver Grey Bear groceries for a couple of hours each Thursday morning. The help entails lifting a grocery bag out of the back of the pickup and carrying it to the door of forty frail elders in Watsonville. It's a 'feel good' activity! Interested parties may call Rich at 684-1079.

### ***Did you know?***

The first president to decorate the White House Christmas tree was Franklin Pierce.

"Rudolph" was actually created in the late 1930s by Montgomery Ward for a holiday promotion.

### ***2011 Campaign To Establish Covenant Relationship With United Methodist Missionary Katherine Parker***

Administrative Council has approved a proposal by the new Mission Team to raise funds for a 2011 covenant relationship with United Methodist missionary Katherine Parker. Katherine recently came to ACUMC and described her work with Cambodian villagers. Her activities include projects to provide clean water, obtain chickens and animals for families, establish rice banks to store rice, teach children, and provide health care. Through the covenant relationship Katherine and ACUMC will exchange emails, information and study opportunities for both children and adults. A campaign to raise \$1,000 (\$5 per member) for the covenant will be carried out during January and February. The money will go to the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries in support of Katherine and her work. If you would like to contribute, envelopes will be available in January and February. Also, an Alternative Christmas donation in honor of a loved one may be made in December and go toward the covenant relationship.

## **Book Club Plans**



**December 20<sup>th</sup>**  
***No One You Know***  
by  
Michelle Richmond  
Hostess: Kay Willcox  
Reviewer: Sue Sampson

**January 17<sup>th</sup>**  
***The Tenderness of Wolves***  
by  
Stef Penney  
Hostess: Cindy Jackson  
Reviewer: Lee MacDonell

The ACUMC Book Club meets at 2:00 PM on the third Monday of every month. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Susan Weeks for more information.

Dear ACUMC Family,

Thank you all so much for the beautiful way you said farewell to me on my last Sunday.

I carry you in my heart as I set off on this new adventure—and I will be back to visit. With love and gratitude,  
*Netha*

P.S. My new address is 17500 Hill Way, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. My e-mail address and cell phone number are the same: [antnene1@hotmail.com](mailto:antnene1@hotmail.com), 408-218-3238.

## **Hello from North Carolina!**

Mohan and Shirley Isaac are settling in to their new home in NC, and send their best to all of us. They miss us a lot, but are enjoying being able to spend more time with their children and grandchildren. They'd love to keep in touch, so feel free to email or call them at their new home.

831-722-6376 (same number as when they lived here)  
[saimdi@yahoo.com](mailto:saimdi@yahoo.com)  
7400 Laketree Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27615

## **HOW TO SPEND NEW YEARS!**

New Years Day, that is. Once again, please join Pastor Pam and Dan for a New Years Day open house at the parsonage. This will be a casual time of gathering with your church friends after the frenzy of New Years Eve. Spirits will still be high, but expectations will be low. Food and drink will be provided. (So will TV for football ... is it safe to say "Go, Ducks" still?) The order of the day will simply be visiting, although if we are lucky, there may be ukuleles playing! Pastor Pam says, "Please do come!"

Directions: Head south on Hwy. 1. Turn left at Salinas Road. Turn right at the second turn – Hillcrest. Then turn left at the second turn – Golf Circle. You are looking for 2775 Golf Circle!



## **Did you know?**

In Mexico, wearing red underwear on New Year's Eve is said to bring new love in the upcoming year.

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## ***Birthdays:***

Teresa Fehr	December 1
Davey Treffkorn	December 3
Kay Willcox	December 5
Carl Perkins	December 5
Patty Thompson	December 5
Jana Daley	December 7
Dick Wood	December 7
Bob Henzie	December 7
Nate Lahue	December 8
Peggy Baldwin	December 10
Chet Martin	December 13
Jillian Holmberg	December 13
Win Cox	December 13
Keri Swenson	December 14
Grace Oldenkamp	December 18
Beth Hinton	December 20
Laina Copley	December 24

RuthieNichols	January 1
Dan Weeks	January 14
Suzanne McCourt	January 17
Evan Fiorovich	January 25
Mike Sampson	January 26
Andy Williamson	January 28
Steve Green	January 29
John Dodson	January 29
Barbara Symons	January 31

## ***Anniversaries:***

Rich & DeAnneHart	December 18
Jim & Linda Theiring	December 19
Craig & Cathy Wright	December 20
John & Jan Jackson	December 21
Pat and Ron Doolittle	December 22
Rebecca & Jean Marc Jot	December 29
Cindy Jackson & Jim Hilgren	January 4
Sheila & Clyde Vaughn	January 16



## ***NEWS FOR JANUARY***

It's hard to see beyond Advent and Christmas in order to tell what January will hold, isn't it? We are undoubtedly going to have to produce some kind of Calendar of Events as those days grow closer! You can expect a couple of new classes, including one on Sunday mornings. A ski trip is in the works. A forum on spiritual/religious issues by our retired clergy is being discussed. Conversation about a Volunteers in Mission trip will begin. It'll be a great start to a great year!

## January Meetings

**Trustees:** Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM  
**Church & Society:** Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM

**Finance:** Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM  
**PACT:** Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> \* 25<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM  
**UMM:** Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00 AM  
**UMW:** Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM  
**Worship:** Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> after church

## December Worship Schedule

### December 5th Communion Second Sunday of Advent

Russ Menk will be preaching.  
Text: Matthew 3: 1-11  
Theme: Sacred Journey

### December 12<sup>th</sup> Third Sunday of Advent

Text: Luke 1: 47-55  
Theme: What is the promise of Christmas?

### December 19<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday of Advent

Text: Matthew 1: 18-25  
Theme: Dreams

### Christmas Eve Service

**Friday December 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**  
Candlelight, lots of carols, Choir and Bells!

### December 26<sup>th</sup>

Text: John 1: 1-18  
Theme: Incarnation

## January Worship Schedule

### January 2nd Communion

Text: Matthew 2: 1-12  
Theme: Epiphany, Faith and Following

### January 9th

Pastor Pam away....Guest Preacher

### January 16<sup>th</sup>

Pastor Pam away....Guest Preacher

### January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Text: Matthew 6: 7-15  
Theme: Lord's Prayer, What are we asking?



*Please say a prayer for:*

**Netha, Jerry, and Lori Thacker, Pam Wood's friend Jan Krueger, Joyce Pearce's friends Tom and Lu Sayous, Dan Burklund's friend Linda Revis, Gita Allen's friend Betty Notar, Hannah Lyn Edwards, Judith Shook, Michele Rossi's young friend Emilie, Ruthie Nichol's nephew Brett Ditler, Deb Eaton's friend Robin Rose, Jane Hull Harvey, Peggy Roll.**

The Prayer Chain is an important part of our ministry, whose members pray for those in need throughout the week. If you would like to add a name to the list or to join this quiet yet powerful ministry, please contact the Church Office, 831-688-2210.



Aptos Community United Methodist Church

*“The Church Worth Finding”*

221 Thunderbird Drive, Aptos, CA 95003

Phone: (831) 688-2210

www.aptosumc.org

**Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM**

**Church School at 10:30 AM**

**Child Care Available 10:15 – 11:45 AM**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**NEWS FROM AROUND THE “CONNEXION”**

From time to time, there are events in our area that may interest you, and we’ll publish info about them for you, just in case. Here are two:

**A Call to Radical Hospitality**

All persons committed to creating safe places for our immigrant brothers and sisters are encouraged to attend this training event at the San Francisco Airport Hyatt Hotel on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The event, 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM, is designed to equip and mobilize leaders for just and compassionate immigration reform. Cost (including lunch and materials) is \$63. See the Conference website for more information: [www.calnevumc.org](http://www.calnevumc.org)

**Earl Lectures and Leadership Conference**

Pacific School of Religion, the alma mater for many of the clergy in this area, will be holding this lecture series in Berkeley for the 110<sup>th</sup> year in a row (!) from Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>-- Friday January 27<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is “Our Daily Bread: Faith, Work, and the Economy.” The featured lecturer will be Robert Reich, Secretary of Labor under President Clinton, and currently a professor of Public Policy at UC Berkeley. Mr. Reich’s lectures (and all the others) are free to the public. If you want to join in the Leadership Conference, the cost is \$150. This is also an opportunity to experience some wonderful worship as well. For more info, go to [www.psr.edu](http://www.psr.edu) and click on Earl Lectures.