



FINE LINES *Notes from Pastor Pam*

Dear ones,

I want to share with you about the Planning Session at the church on Saturday, January 16th. Actually, we did more than planning. We also shared some great conversation about who we are as a church and why we're here. What a great way to start the new year!

About 25 of us were there, and after doughnuts and coffee, we got to work! We began by reminding ourselves why we have a church at all – people like Mary Elizabeth Brown, Frank Farr, Gertrude Miller, and Elta Andrews started a Methodist Church in Aptos in the 1940s because they felt called to share the Gospel. And long before that, *Jesus* was anointed to bring good news to the poor, sight to the blind, release to the captives. To heal and to save. We reminded ourselves that – as the church – we are the Body of Christ, and are called to carry on *Jesus'* work, not for our sakes but for the sake of others.

We read scripture, including Acts 1:6-11 wherein *Jesus* promised that the Holy Spirit would give us power. We discussed the difference between energy and power (power is energy directed at producing results) and talked about how churches often expend a lot of energy without producing results. We concluded that doing what *Jesus* would do means producing results for God's Kingdom and we saw that in this, we share the mission of the entire United Methodist Church: To Make Disciples of *Jesus Christ* for the Transformation of the World.

We revisited conversations from the church's Visioning session three years ago as well as the description of a Vital Church that came from last Fall's reading project.

Finally – with all this as our foundation – we began some planning. With reference to a book called *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* (you'll hear more about it in the future) – we discussed five areas of the church's work: hospitality, worship, faith development, ministry and mission, and generous giving. Here's a list of the activities for which we began planning:

- Making a concern for children and youth at risk the central focus of our work together.
- Striving to become a neighborhood church, inviting neighbors to all our activities.
- Involving ourselves in new missions (locally and afar).
- Expanding our communications, including mailings and our presence on the internet.
- Offering more adult education, with an emphasis on spiritual growth.
- Committing to more financial transparency, as well as offering support for personal financial health and understanding generosity as a spiritual discipline.

You will hear much more about these things as the time goes on – and invited to participate!

But for now ... doesn't it sound like an interesting and exciting new year??

Christian Education Corner

by Ken Cook

First of all, it is an honor for me to oversee the activities that take place during Sunday School. My first request for you reading this is to email or call me with your thoughts, suggestions and ... ways that you would like to help out: kennrcook@sbcglobal.net or 462-0229.

Sunday School each week is the result of the efforts of many volunteers. I believe this is a priceless gift given to the children and families in the church. Without half a dozen adults stepping up each week, the children simply would not have a place to come and worship, laugh, act, learn and ask with their peers.

The Christian Education Team met on January 3. I invited the team to reflect on their Sunday School experiences and what impact those experiences have on their lives today.

The overwhelming response from the team was, "Sunday School gave me the roots and foundation of the faith that I have today. The scripture versus, the standards, values, beliefs and even choices of my friends, all can be traced back to Sunday School". For several, Sunday School was a safe haven, a place of continuity, stability, guidance, love, family and safety. Love that they were hungry for, love that their own parents could not give them, for a variety of reasons, was freely given by adults who simply took the time each week to be with them.

These comments are from the Christian Education Team, from peers that you worship with on a regular basis, and I have a hunch that your responses will be similar. I deeply appreciate the honest, candid responses from the team and it reminds me of the importance of the time, the love, and the activities that we offer to the children each week.

Last Sunday, the children and adults in Sunday School discussed the predicament in Haiti. The children expressed a desire to help these people who are suffering so. By the time you read this, some of them will have spoken to their school principals, to their teachers or to their peers asking them to donate items which will be packaged by them and sent to UMCOR.

The seed of reaching out to those in need has taken root. I invite you to share some of your time with these children so that their roots will go deep, that they will be properly nourished, and that we can all grow together in love.

In February there are opportunities for a teacher, a story teller and a musician. I am grateful that an assistant teacher has already stepped up. Please do email or call me, even if it's just to let me know that you read the article. A big thank you, as well, to our January volunteers!

In Peace,
Ken Cook

LENTEN STUDY

Interested in a study for Lent? Pastor Pam will provide! Starting Tuesday, February 16th (or Sunday, February 21st) you are invited to join her in a study of the book The Last Week by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. In eight chapters, the book traces Jesus movements and motivations each day of Holy Week (Palm Sunday through Easter). Two classes will be offered: Tuesday evenings from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM, or a shorter session from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. The class is actually nine sessions as it includes a wrap-up following Easter. (During Holy Week, the two groups will meet together on Saturday morning, April 3rd at 10:00 AM.)

PASTOR PAM ON VACATION

Pastor Pam will be on vacation from Monday, February 1st through Monday, February 8th (visiting her son John in Washington State with a side trip to Victoria, BC). If you have a need for pastoral care during that time, please call Clyde Vaughn. On Sunday, February 7th, worship will be led by Lay Leader Kathleen Hoaglund with the Rev. Pharis Harvey preaching.

Lay Leader Development News

Here is a chance for us to get some ideas and resources on lay leadership development! I will definitely be going to the training on February 13th, and we can carpool if others are interested. The registration fee is \$10.00 and that includes lunch. Please see details below and email the district office to let them know you'll be attending: sjdist@sbcglobal.net.

Also, the subject of the April training will be "Youth Ministry in Your Church," so save April 14th on your calendars! More details later.

Your lay leader,
Kathleen Hoaglund, kathleenannh@charter.net

San Jose District Quarterly Conference

**Saturday February 13, 2010
8:30 am to 1:00 pm
Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley,
1001 Ginger Lane, San Jose 95128**

**“As we rethink church,
what is the role of lay leadership?”**

**with Rev. Ted Virts, Conference Superintendent
and Conference Co-Lay Leaders:
Gayle Shearman and Burt Yin
District Lay Leader Nina Kepac**

**Register By February 8, 2010
With Pam, San Jose District Office
(408) 295 5341 or sjdist@sbcglobal.net**

Cost: \$10 for each person, includes lunch
CHILDCARE available ONLY if requested by February 8, 2010.
Cost: \$5 per child. You must bring lunch for each child.
Make check out to “California-Nevada Annual Conference” and send to
San Jose District Office, 729 Morse Street, San Jose, CA 95126.

Schedule

8:30 am Registration and refreshments
9:00 am Worship in the sanctuary
10:00 am Announcements Rev. Kristie Olah
Upcoming events in the district
10:20 am Break
10:40 am Presentation and discussion, Rev. Ted Virts,
Gayle Shearman, Burt Yin, and Nina Klepac
12:15 pm Lunch together
1:00 pm Dismissal

Name:	Church:
Address:	
Telephone:	Email:
Children's names & ages for Childcare:	
Check for vegetarian lunch <input type="checkbox"/>	

2010 OFFICERS, LEADERS, AND TEAMS

Lay Leader: Kathleen Hoaglund

Administrative Council Chair: Dick Wood

Staff-Parish-Relations (SPR)

2010

Laurel Blaney
Netha Thacker
Susan Weeks

2011

Rebecca Jot
Roger Houston
Roger Swenson

2012

Jenna Kaysen
Jean Beebe
Teresa Fehr

Trustees:

2010

Marty Fiorovich
Ken Cook
Jean-Marc Jot

2011

Skip Fehr
Darin Dailey
Georgia Mackh

2012

Joe MacDonell
Jana Daley
Jeff Favorite

Stewardship/Finance: **Mike Sampson**, Pastor Pam, Sheila Vaughn, Dick Wood, Roger Swenson, Kathleen Hoaglund, Carolyn Collins, Peggy Kaysen, Jana Daley, Skip Fehr, Dick Allen, Mike Beebe.

Lay Leadership (Nominations): **Pastor Pam**

2010

Nancy Moody
Mohan Isaac
Laurel Blaney

2011

Ken McElroy
Joe MacDonell
Wally Ingram

2012

Forrest Willcox
Rich Hart
Steve Green

Christian Ed Circle: Jana Daley, Nancy Moody, Rebecca Jot, Roger Houston, Marcia Burns, Karen Ramirez, Caroline Carney, Wendy Baker, Ken Cook, Pam Fine, Rudolph Ramirez, Joyce Pearce

Worship Team: **Lee MacDonell**, Connie Moore, Pam Wood, Pharis Harvey, Margaret Williamson, Dossie Perkins, Kathleen Cook, Dan Weeks, Pat Doolittle

P.A.C.T. (Pastoral Assistance Care Team): Pastor Pam, **Jana Daley**, Rich Hart, Velma Greyell, Anita Little, Beth Hinton, Roger Houston, Hazel Smith, Laurel Blaney, Sandra Hammett

Membership Team: Cindy Jackson, Sheila Vaughn, Pat Carr, Charlie Mackh, Debbie Murphy, Rich Hart, Carol Yelton

Congregational Life: **Kay Willcox**, **Susan Weeks**, Glenn & Joyce Pearce, Lee MacDonell, Jane Green, Sue Sampson, Theresa Fehr, Ken McElroy

Church & Society: **Bob Blaney**, Clyde Vaughn, Pharis Harvey, Kathleen Hoaglund, Roger Houston, DeAnne Hart, Marcia Burns, Ruth Landmann

U.M.W.: **Barbara Symons**

2010 OFFICERS, LEADERS, AND TEAMS (continued)

U.M.M.: **Wally Ingram and Mike Sampson**

Artisans Faire: **Clyde Vaughn**, Jana Daley, Deb Eaton, Cindy Jackson, Joanne Tanner, Sheila Vaughn, Kay Willcox, Roger Houston, Jeff Favorite, Shannon Lindahl

Maintenance: Wally Ingram, Tommy Kaysen, Mohan Isaac, Dan Frazier, Dave Frazier, Jon Fiorovich

Memorial Committee: **Jana Daley**, Nancy Moody, Darin Dailey, Joyce Quinn, Dossie Perkins

** **Bold** type indicates chair.

** We did our best to accurately reflect the nominations acceptances. Please call the church office if you see any mistakes regarding your participation in a particular team.

Who ya Gonna Call?

As we begin a new year, we also begin new routines, and update old ones. And some of the questions that are typically asked at church now have a different answer than they might have in 2009. One of the most frequent questions that comes thru the church office is “Who should I call to find out about.....”. So here is a current list of who does what in our church organization. You can also learn a lot by reading the list of your 2010 leadership and teams published elsewhere in this month’s Tide.

Reimbursements/Check requests
 Church rooms availability
 Altar Flowers
 Ushering
 Greeters
 Musical talent offerings
 Questions regarding your pledge
 Building repair issues
 Tide Articles
 Website questions/corrections
 Address corrections for directory
 Name Badge changes or requests
 Liturgists
 Acolytes
 Rides to and from church needed
 Church Keys
 Youth Group
 Sunday School

Sheila Vaughn
 Jana Daley
 Lee MacDonell
 Lee MacDonell
 Sheila Vaughn
 Susie Lewis
 Carolyn Collins
 Skip Fehr
 Deb Aaron
 Jana Daley
 Church office
 Sheila Vaughn
 Lee MacDonell
 Clyde Vaughn
 Jana Daley
 Jana Daley
 Rebecca Jot
 Ken Cook



FINANCIAL REPORT – December 2009

In order for all of us to be aware of our financial health at Aptos Community UMC, we will publish a brief Financial Report in the Tide each month. The report will give the church's income and expenses in the previous full month, as compared with the budgeted amounts. We'll also list the average attendance for the month. (In this report, the 2009 annual budget figures are also included.)

	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>Annual</i>	<i>Annual</i>
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>
Income	\$20,255	\$19,697	\$235,569	\$246,077
Expenses	\$19,681	\$19,515	\$238,181	\$246,077
Difference	\$561	\$182	(\$2,612)*	0
 Average Attendance in Sunday Worship				 120

* This figure indicates that in 2009, we spent \$2,612 more than we brought in. That amount was taken from the church's Reserves. (Figures are rounded.)

2010 BUDGET, APTOS COMMUNITY UMC

INCOME

Pledges & Regular Givers \$183,518
 Sunday Offerings \$ 7,000
 Holiday Offerings \$ 3,000
 Artisans Faire \$ 9,000
 Building Use \$ 25,781
 Birthday Fund \$ 4,800
 Other Fundraisers \$ 2,500
 Draw from Reserves \$ 5,000

=====

Total Budgeted Income

\$240,599

EXPENSES

Conference Apportionments \$ 45,694
 Education \$ 1,910
 Worship \$ 1,490
 Ministry/Church Life \$ 2,650
 Church Office \$ 7,844
 Building & Grounds \$ 25,836
 Staff Salaries
 Office Manager \$ 20,550
 Music \$ 34,584
 Youth \$ 2,500
 Pastoral Salary & Expense \$ 95,313
 Capital Expenditures \$ 2,000

=====

Total Budgeted Expenses

\$240,371

Note: This budget requires drawing an additional \$5,000 from the church's Reserves.

Report from Stewardship & Finance, January 2010

Your committee first met this year on January 12th to review the final 2009 financial results and to finalize a 2010 budget recommendation. We are pleased to report that the church ended 2009 expending \$248,689 against a budget of \$246,077. A serious shortfall in anticipated pledge income was overcome by an increased net from the Artisan Faire, lower pastoral costs, and generally frugal spending by all, so that we ended the year only \$2,612.33 over budget. This minor deficit has been covered by a transfer from reserves, leaving a reserve balance of \$22,931.57 entering FY 2010. In addition, the Trustees reported a balance of \$56,177.31 in the Trustees accounts, most of which is reserved for the parsonage. Thus, in 2009 we funded and secured a new parsonage and continued ongoing church operations at near historical levels in spite of the Great Recession. These are exceptional results any way you look at it, and speak very well of the financial commitment by everyone to the work of this church.

The results of the fall pledge campaign are in and, not surprisingly, we are seeing a drop in anticipated pledge income. The committee recommended a total 2010 operating budget of \$240,599, or about 98% of the 2009 budget. In order to maintain funding at near past levels, the committee recommended an increased draw on reserves, to \$5,000, and reductions in operating costs to be made up by volunteer efforts by the congregation. In addition, Pastor Pam has volunteered to take two weeks additional time off as unpaid leave, reducing pastoral costs. The recommended FY 2010 budget was approved by Ad Council on January 13th.

As the newest member and new Chair of Stewardship & Finance (S&F), I would appreciate your thoughts and recommendations regarding the functioning of the committee going forward. Understanding that S&F is responsible and accountable for the church operating budget and related finances, what would your thoughts be on the following:

Financial Reporting: What routine reporting would you like to see (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc), in what detail (summary to detail by budget account) and by what means (the Sunday Bulletin, monthly Tide, special mailings or email, etc.)?

Budget Process: Our budget represents the Church's financial plan for the year, and directly or indirectly, the priorities of the congregation. How can we better involve everyone in the management of the current budget and planning of future budgets?

Future Funding: S&F is tasked with funding initiatives, including the annual pledge drive. What are your thoughts on how best to carry out this task?

Financial Stewardship in General: What other activities would you like to see undertaken by S&F? Money and the spirit of the church seem at conflict, but are inevitably intertwined. Would you be interested in stewardship seminars using UMC resources? How do you see the lessons from the Vital Signs program being applied to our finances?

Please feel free to contact me or any member of S&F with your ideas: Pastor Pam, Sheila Vaughn, Dick Wood, Roger Swenson, Kathleen Hoaglund, Carolyn Collins, Peggy Kaysen, Jana Daley, Skip Fehr, Dick Allen, Mike Beebe.

Mike Sampson, Chair

Worship in February

Sunday, February 7th

Communion Sunday

Guest Speaker: Rev. Pharis Harvey

Service will be led by

Kathleen Hoaglund, Lay Leader



Sunday, February 14th

Mardi Gras Sunday

Text: Luke 9:28-36

Theme: Transfiguration

Wednesday, February 17th

Ash Wednesday

Services at 5:30 PM

Sunday, February 21th

Lent

Text: Luke 3:1-6

Theme: Repentance, Preparing the Way

Sunday, February 28th

Lent

Text: Luke 13:31-35

Theme: Jesus' Lament



Farewell

We say farewell to our beloved mom and friend, Fran Swenson. Fran passed away peacefully in the late hours of January 23rd, surrounded by her children, grandchildren, and new great-grandbaby Lily Joy. Fran was a cornerstone of this church, and one of those remaining few of us who date back to the previous campus in Aptos Village. Her constant presence every Sunday for all these years has been a source of inspiration, joy, and comfort to all of us. Services took place Saturday, Jan 30th in the Recital Hall at Cabrillo College, followed by a lovely reception in the lobby of the new Performing Arts Complex.

Ash Wednesday

The shared Ash Wednesday service will be on Wednesday, February 17th at 7:00 PM at Resurrection Church, 7600 Soquel Drive.



Mardi Gras Sunday!



Wow! Lent is almost upon us! It starts with Ash Wednesday on February 17th. That means that Tuesday, February 16th is "Fat Tuesday" – Mardi Gras! Remembering that Ash Wednesday begins a solemn season of contemplation and self denial, the Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras tradition involves one last wild (and maybe even a little sinful) celebration before the penance begins – Gertrude Mueller Nelson calls it a "pageant of the dark elements of the soul." In most Christian cultures this once meant enjoying the last of the foods that were prohibited during Lent – especially eggs and sugar and *fat* (oh *that's* where that comes from!) – so it was an evening of feasting on decadent things to eat and drink. (Some more reserved people enjoy pancake suppers ...). In other – shall we say more *raucous* cultures – think New Orleans and Rio de Janeiro – Mardi Gras means parades and dancing and costumes and general debauchery!

SO! On the Sunday before Ash Wednesday – February 14th – let's enjoy a Mardi Gras Sunday! (Yes, we know it's Valentine's Day ... maybe we can combine them somehow?) The Youth Group will be serving up a special Youth Café after worship. Look for foods that are fattening!! You'll want to anticipate one or two delightful entertainments as well! Meanwhile, *you* are invited to come dressed in Mardi Gras colors (purples and greens and golds) and masks and costumes. (This is *not* a clothing optional event, however!) Ms. Mueller (and I) recommend dressing as your "shadow self" – that part of you that you keep hidden most of the year, or are even a little bit afraid of! Wear your costume to worship. Don't be shy! It's going to be a great day!

February Calendar of Events

Special Meetings & Events

PACT

Wednesday, February 10 at 10:30 AM

Worship Team

Wednesday, February 10 at 1:00 PM

United Methodist Men

Saturday, February 13 at 8:00 AM

Mardi Gras Sunday

Sunday, February 14

Trustees

Monday, February 15

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17 at 7:00 PM
Resurrection Church, 7600 Soquel Drive

Finance

Wednesday, February 17 at 6:30 PM

Tide Article Submission Deadline

Thursday, February 18

Weekly Meetings

Alive Now

Tuesday's at 10:00 AM (2. 9. 16 & 23)

Second Harvest

Thanks to everyone who donated canned goods and checks to the Second Harvest Holiday Food Drive. We gave a combined equivalent of 1,100 pounds of food.

Please mark your calendars for our next Food Sort on **Saturday, March 13th.**



United Methodist Men

Next meeting will be Saturday, February 13th at 8:00 AM at the church. We will be setting up outreach projects so we need all of your help! Breakfast will be provided.

Information and RSVP:

Wally: wdingram@aol.com; 662-0739

Mike: mikesam@sbcglobal.com;

688-5528

Rich: hartbeat@hughes.net; 684-1079

New Church Directory Coming in February



We will publish a new church directory in early February, and want to make sure it is accurate and up to date. Please make sure we have your current email, phone, and address. Do we have your birthday? Your anniversary? Even if you are certain we do, help us out by sending us the information again, it never hurts to be doubly sure. Please send us the information by

February 10th. Email your information to Jana: office@aptosumc.org, or phone it in to 688-2210.



Congregational Life Committee

Until further notice your Congregational Life Committee will be supplying only coffee and tea for coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Donations of sweets and goodies however will be gratefully accepted.



What's the latest buzz?

*It's the return of our special reunion service
Sunday, April 25, 2010*

I'LL BE THERE AGAIN!

February Birthdays

- 1 Lucas Treffkorn
- 4 Tom Lahue
- Megan Mackh
- 5 Margie Jurach
- 9 Bob Folker
- 10 Drew Rossi
- Anita Little
- 11 Michelle Bagley
- 12 Seth Manning
- Cliff Nichols
- 13 Ken McElroy
- 17 Judd Gilbert
- 18 Lexi Baker
- 19 Laurel Blaney
- 21 Allyson Cook
- Glenn Pearce
- Sheila Vaughn
- 25 Marcia Burns
- 28 Jane Green
- 29 Betty Nuss



Communion Every Week?

The New Testament tell us that on the night before he died, Jesus invited his disciples to share bread and wine, and asked that – in the future - they do so in his memory. Methodist founder John Wesley regarded the Lord's Supper as an important means of grace, and encouraged all Methodists to enjoy the practice as often as possible. As the fledgling Methodist movement began its growth in the American colonies, however, the shortage of ordained clergy made it difficult to continue that practice in the traditional way and churches typically made the Lord's Supper a monthly event rather than weekly.

In 2004, our General Conference acknowledged that, with ordained clergy situated in nearly every church, there is no longer any practical reason for this infrequency. Therefore, the General Conference recommended that our congregations return to the practice of weekly communion.

I myself also feel that taking the Lord's Supper frequently is a profound spiritual practice. But I also recognize that it can take a congregation awhile to get used to the idea! So, beginning in February, I will offer communion every Sunday – for those who wish to receive it. On first Sundays, it will be a part of the worship service as usual. On the other Sundays, after the service and after greetings at the door, I will offer a very brief communion service at the front of the sanctuary to anyone interested.

In time, I will offer a study on the Lord's Supper and perhaps then we will discuss including communion in our Sunday worship every week. Until then, I hope you will join me when the Spirit moves you!



The Power of Prayer

Please keep in your prayers this month: **Hazel Smith's son Greg, the Swenson Family, Betty Nuss, Alisha Favorite, Dossie Perkins, Peggy Roll, Norma Christensen, Carol Frazier, Nancy Moody's friend Karen Farrow, Netha**

Thacker's brother Tim Houdashelt, Dick Wood's cousin Valerie Fiala, Holly Ota's friend Trisha.

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.

The Tide

The Tide is published monthly by Aptos Community United Methodist Church. Aptos Community UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of *all persons*, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities. We affirm our denomination's motto – **Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.**

The Church Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Pastor Pam is in the office Tuesday thru Friday. (Monday is her day off.)

Church Staff

**The Reverend Pam Fine
Pastor**

mamafine@aptosumc.org

831-688-2210

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Aptos Community United Methodist Church

"The Church Worth Finding"

221 Thunderbird Drive, Aptos, CA 95003

Phone: (831) 688-2210

www.aptosumc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM

Church School at 10:30 AM

Child Care Available 10:15 – 11:45 AM

BOOK CLUB PLANS

Monday, February 15th

"The House on Sugar Beach"

by Helen Cooper

Hosted by Laurel Blaney



Upcoming Book

Monday, March 15th

"The Help"

by Geraldine Brooks

Hosted by Cindy Jackson



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

2009 Christmas Play DVDs Available Now

Let the office know if you would like a copy of our most recent Christmas play, "The Tree Farm". There is no charge for them, but if you can donate \$2 to cover our duplicating costs we'd appreciate it.

