

CHAPEL CHIMES



GRASS VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

Feb. 1, 2010

Vol. 161, Issue 2

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW will meet on Feb. 4, 2010,
Thursday.

Executive Board: 9:30am in Susanna
Wesley Room

Continental Breakfast at 10:30am. Isabella
Thoburn Circle is hostess.

Unit meeting at 11:00am. Our program relates to 2010 Spiritual Growth Study. It's titled "For the Love of God: John's Letters. The goal of this program is to hear the message of love in John's letters and reflect on how love is the foundation for community, relationships, and our work together as women in mission. Those attending are invited to bring a photograph of themselves with someone they love. This program was written by Sharon Delgado, a Methodist minister who lives in the area, who is active in seeking justice for the downtrodden, and who is interested in seeing her program in the "flesh" instead of just in her mind and on paper. Four helpers are needed for the script. Let's make it come alive. Call Marilyn Wilson at 274-8952 to learn more about participation---or I may have to recruit you!

The January meeting focused on the third discipleship area of our church mission statement--nurture and care for our congregation

(Cont'd Page 4)

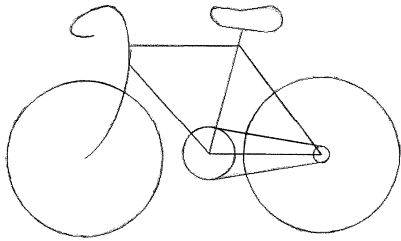
VOLUNTEER -- NEEDED

We need a person to be responsible for Fair Trade activity in the church. Each church in the Conference is asked to provide an opportunity for members to purchase Fair Trade products, such as coffee, tea, and chocolate. Each church is, also, asked to serve Fair Trade products during their social times.

Small farmers who grow coffee often struggle to make a simple living in some of the poorest countries of the world. Cut off from market, they are forced to accept low prices. Equal Exchange pays a fair price to the farmers, helping them build better lives for themselves. Taking charge of Fair Trade products in the church would be a way to help these farmers and so help build a better world.

Call Marilyn Wilson at 274-8952 to find out more about this service.





The Pastor's Letter

2 Chronicles 7:14 *If my people, who are called by name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face ... I will heal their land.*
Audacious Lenten Journey

In our spiritual discovery year as a congregation I invite you to enter into an AUDACIOUS Lenten journey.

Something happened recently in the tiny South Pacific Island of Samoa, they became the first country in more than 40 years to change driving lanes. That is, they had been driving on the RIGHT side like forever, and as of September 14 they started motoring on the LEFT side of the road. YIKES! Imagine those first few days out on the highways. They declared a two day national holiday at the day of the switch to reduce traffic and banned all alcohol sales for three days prior to the switch.

This Lent, on Wed February 17, the Holy Spirit is going to invite you to get into a different lane, start driving a new spiritual discovery adventure. That is what conversion is like: moving from the lane in which I have been driving, and beginning to drive, cautiously into a completely new lane.

There are all types of conversions: intellectual, mystical, experimental, affectional, revivalist, coercive and more. But most scholars of this phenomenon agree that the single most important element of conversion is *change*, often radical change, in which we are changed for the better.

What is important to be thinking about as we hit Ash Wednesday is that the idea of conversion is not simply for people “out there” who are unchurched and nonbelievers. Conversion is very much a subject for us to address as a people of an ecstatic faith. We

need to take some time in special spiritual practices; try fasting, join the painting theologically class, stay sober, pray in different ways, serve at hospitality house—move our lives over into another lane for awhile and experience the living God in a not yet discovered dimension! I look forward to changing lanes with you,

Audacious Lenten Blessings, Rev. Tana

Grass Valley UMC-- Scripture and Sermon

February 7, 2010—Communion Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 138; Luke 5:1-11

Sermon: Thank You for Me

February 14, 2010

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2;

Luke 9:28-36

Sermon: Chains of Love

February 17, 2010 Ash Wednesday 5:00 PM

Scripture: Psalm 51:1-17

Sermon: The Confession Gadget

February 21, 2010 1st Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-11;

Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: Thou Shall Not Live by Street Food Alone

February 28, 2010 2nd Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Philippians 3:17-4:1;

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: The Five-Question Quiz



STARDUST?

The substance of my body first was wrought
Within the core of some dismantled star;
The oxygen I breathe there came to be,
As well as all the things surrounding me.
Where was that star, and when did this occur?
Is this clear fact from which I can't demur?

They say creation's source was energy,
A singularity they postulate;
A mustard seed of force beyond all thought,
That from this energy there first was wrought
Just hydrogen and helium alone,
As space and time and light were outward blown.

Then presently ignited those first stars,
Those great suns that would forge what was to be;
Immense nuclear reactors hung in space,
That would with other elements replace
The simple substances which now they burned;
Activities that quick destruction earned.

So all is well, if what they teach is true,
It sounds impressive in the lecture room;
They speak of how and when, of what and where,
But of the Who and why they still despair.
If we were gathered from star's residue,
There are some questions we need to review.

- Earl Leonard Langguth

Many of Rev. Earl's unpublished poems
are to be found on the internet at the following
website: www.poatree.org

THE SEEKERS is a group which meets
Sunday mornings to discuss a wide variety of
subjects. Everyone expresses an opinion if they
care to. Sometimes ideas conflict, but participants
feel free to speak up because there will be no
criticism of anyone's ideas.

Some recent topics have been these:

There were a number of disasters-

- * the new H1N1 flu appeared,
- * several prominent murders made
the news,
- * group shootings took place,
- * the economy was hit hard.

The good news-

- * Sully Sullenberger landed his
plane in the Hudson River and
saved 155 lives,
- * a new president was sworn in,
- * and Susan Boyle delighted us with
her magical voice.

FOOD SAFETY:

Even though E. Coli, salmonella, mercury
and other contaminants have been found in our
food, most people have not changed their eating
habits.

FAITH AND YOUNG ADULTS:

Young adults will go where other young
adults go. They want a connection with God,
connection with neighbors, and a connection with
the world through social justice outreach.

BAPTISM:

Baptism recognizes that you are a child of
God.

(Shirley Payne)

(Cont'd from Page 1) **UMW**

Lynn Schorr, our parish nurse and past co-
president of UMW, explained her duties and her
involvement with Friendly Visitors and Giving
Communion to our shut-ins, members who are
unable to come to church. She made the work
sound very helpful and very rewarding, so if the
New Year has you thankful for your mobility and
wanting to visit shut-ins who are unable to move
about, talk to Lynn at 273-8873.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The Spirit Peer Empowerment Center (a non-profit) assists people who are homeless, jobless, some with mental illness, some with addictions and others who just need to be part of the Center for social connections. They serve 400-600 walk-ins every month. Through hundreds of volunteer hours, they provide one-on-one peer counseling, 14 different weekly support groups and other services for anyone over age 18. All the services are free and confidential.

One in five families in the U.S. is affected by serious mental illness. Prevention is the key to saving lives and tax dollars. Many people make their first connection to mental health services at the emergency room or the Wayne Brown Correctional Facility and many tragically receive no treatment and end up homeless or at the morgue. Cost effective, healthy choices are available as an alternative to the cycle of recidivism where peers are stuck between hospitalization, homelessness and/or incarceration. Empowerment centers like the Spirit Center function at a fraction of the cost of these traditional services.

"Peer Counseling" is a system whereby those who have gone through difficulties and have re-established their lives, attend extensive training offered at Spirit and then offer the help they received back to others. There are groups for dealing with grief, drugs, alcohol, mental illness, social anxiety, and bipolar support. There is a women's group and a men's group. Their goal is to empower participants by identifying and supporting their growth steps.

Monetary donations are needed to provide emergency housing, transportation, and medications for clients. Donations are also needed for utilities and office supplies at the Center. Volunteers are also needed. The Center is located at 276 Gates Place in the Brunswick area. Their address is Spirit Mental Health Peer Empowerment Center, P.O. Box 565, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

(Darcy Briel)



ONE OF OUR PARTNERS

The Good news: These days when we seem to hear so much bad news, Habitat has a ray of hope to share with you. We have just provided two more families with safe, decent affordable homes. Our remarkable Habitat supporters have enabled us to change the lives of 26 adults and 60 children in Nevada County.

The Ongoing challenge: Even though many hard working families still struggle with the high cost of housing in our area, we see these challenging times as a window of great opportunity. Now is the time for us to think bigger. With you as our partner, we are in a position to help more local families achieve the dream of home ownership, and strike a major blow against the problem of sub-standard housing.

Our Mission: Kaye stated our mission best at her home dedication on November 15, 2009 -

"You hear that you're not getting a house, you're getting a home. But what you don't hear is that it is much more than that. It's about giving someone a life ... It's about possibilities and hope. There are no more limitations because anything is possible now. Miracles really do happen."

(Kaye Connors)

Why make a gift to Nevada County Habitat for Humanity?

1. We are the only organization currently providing affordable homeownership in our community.
2. We have a proven success rate. We are proud of and grateful for the contribution we have made completing 19 homes.
3. Your investment works into the future because homeowner mortgages come back to Habitat to support future builds.
4. The timing is perfect: we're raising money to break ground on our new 16 home project, and with your help we can complete more homes than ever.
5. There is nothing more fulfilling than changing people's lives and helping your community prosper at the same time.

United Methodist Church of Grass Valley
 Conference Apportionments and Second Mile Giving
 For the
 Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2009

Received for Second Mile Giving \$ 79,304.70

Forwarded/Distributed to the Conference

Apportionments and Askings

Apport-Pension & Benefits	12,666.00	
Apport-Ministerial Support	8,838.00	
Apport-Conf Prog & World Service	7,441.00	
Apport-Conf Office & Administration	7,089.00	
Apport-World Service	4,129.00	
Apport-Black Colleges	570.00	
Apport-Africa University	129.00	
Apport-Episcopal	1,122.00	
Apport-General Administration	460.00	
Apport-Interdenominational	111.00	
Apport-Ministerial Education	1,428.00	
Apport-Jurisdic Conf Administration	100.00	
Apport-Jurisdic Korean Missions	65.00	
Askings-District Program	810.00	
Askings-Nevada Sierra Church Extentions	810.00	
Askings-Ethnic Minority	2,207.00	
Askings-Emerging Congregations	2,207.00	
	<hr/>	
		50,182.00

Other Conference Givings including Advance Specials

One Great Hour of Sharing	470.00	
Human Relations Day	124.00	
Native American Awareness	74.00	
Annual Conference Giving	281.00	
Peace and Justice	236.00	
Student Day	235.00	
World Wide Communion	40.00	
Hope Secondary School	610.00	
MISSIONS: PIM Mozambique	680.00	
MISSIONS: JANE KIES	1,140.00	
UMCOR	2,180.00	
UMEA - Phone Cards for Troops	10.00	
Nevada Sierra District 2% Fund	883.00	
	<hr/>	
		<u>6,963.00</u>

Total Conference Giving = YTD Amount Given (apportionment statement) 57,145.00

Local Interest Projects

Pastor's Discretionary Fund	3,850.00	
Interfaith Food - Direct	4,142.00	
Inter Faith Food Passthru	6,271.00	
Domestic Violence & Sex Abuse	200.00	
Emerg Assistance Coalition	510.00	
Hospitality House	3,622.70	
George and Suzanne Peavy (gift)	200.00	
MISSIONS: FRONTIERS (Peavys)	1,200.00	
MISSIONS: HEIFER PROJECT	2,015.00	
BREAD FOR THE WORLD	149.00	
UNICEF - Trick or Treat		
VBS Project 2009 - Pennies for Peace	53.00	
	<hr/>	
		<u>22,159.70</u>

Total Second Mile Giving \$ 79,304.70

posted thru December 31, 2009

WHAT: Spiritual Care Services
Volunteer Training

WHERE: **Sierra Nevada
Memorial Hospital**

WHEN: Tuesday evenings 6:30 -
8:30

February 16th through May
4th

WHO: Volunteers who'd like to
work in spiritual care at the hospital

For anyone interested in becoming a Spiritual Care Services volunteer at Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital, there will be a training class at the hospital beginning February 16th through May 4th. Classes will be on Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 to 8:30. This class is required to be a Spiritual Care Volunteer at SNMH. The class will be open for anyone who has interviewed to register, but no new participants will be allowed to begin after the second week.

The Spiritual Care Services Volunteers at SNMH are men and women who:

** assist with provision of spiritual
and emotional care for hospital
patients

** Work as interfaith volunteers;
non-proselytizing

** commit to visiting patients for 4
hours weekly

Requirements:

** Positive energy; emotionally
healthy, well balanced

** Teachable and excited to learn

** and on a personal spiritual path

** ability to respond effectively in emergency
situations

** sensitivity and inner strength

** committed to personal growth

** ability to openly meet people of diverse
faith backgrounds

** high level of verbal communication skills

** willing to work as a member of a team

** strong interpersonal skills—listening,
assessing, speaking, reporting

The training classes will be focused on 1)
hospital requirements and 2) patient
interaction skills and,

3) Personal self-growth. The training will
prepare new volunteers to understand their
duties as a Spiritual Care Volunteer in the
hospital setting. New volunteers will be
oriented to understanding the hospital
culture—including all hospital and HIPPA
rules, regulations and laws, the roles of the
hospital staff, privacy and confidentiality
requirements, infection control standards, etc.
As Spiritual Care Volunteers we will learn
how to care for the non-physical aspects of
the patients' needs. We will spend a lot of
time learning and reviewing interpersonal
skills—active listening, spiritual and emotional
assessment, working with the grief process,
understanding human feelings and
communication, supporting families in times
of loss, etc. All volunteers that complete the
training will be asked for a minimum one year
commitment to the Spiritual Care Team.

An interview is required before beginning the
class.

For an interview, please contact SNMH
Spiritual Care Services Manager, David
Swetman at

530.247.6216 or
david.swetman@chw.edu

*The following is a copy of an E-mail
from Larry and Jane Kies in
Mutare, Zimbabwe -*

Picture a small, dimly-lit sitting room. Sparse, worn furniture. A wedding picture and "The Lord's Prayer" hanging proudly on the walls. A small collection of memories placed on shelves.

Grief hangs in the chilly evening air. We sat with the family, mourning the loss of their 2-year-old son. The father, himself ill and unable to walk or work, was crying. His wife, in shock, was unable to shed a tear. It was the elderly and almost toothless grandfather who surprised us with a story --

"A 'garden-boy' was given the responsibility of tending the roses in the garden of his '**Boss**'. He put time and energy into lovingly caring for and nurturing the beautiful flowers. One day the **Boss** had special visitors and cut the blooms to decorate his home. The gardener pitched up for work as usual and was distraught when he saw the bare stalks. He went running into the house and said to his **Boss**- 'Why have you cut my flowers?'

The **Boss** explained, 'I employed you as a gardener. It is not for you to say 'Cut' or 'Don't cut'. The flowers are mine to do with as I please. Your responsibility is to care for them.'

This testimony of faith amazed and moved us. I related the story to Prisca, the lady who cleans our home. She shared it at a funeral that she attended, and told me that it brought comfort

Maybe it is spreading from funeral to funeral....

In a country where much has been taken away in the past years of turmoil and uncertainty, this expression of trust and faith - related without bitterness by a man who has been a faithful cook in the home of the people who own the farm his house stands on - is the 'fuel' that continues to motivate and inspire people

"Mwari anoziva" (God knows).

It's echoed in a song we often sing in church.

**You give.. .and take away...
My heart will choose to say
Blessed be the name of the Lord.**

Now picture a cave or stable near a town thousands of miles from Zimbabwe. Perhaps there are animals there; there is certainly a feeding trough, in the familiar Christmas story, the '**Boss**' comes this time to the home of the 'gardener' with a gift of a '**flower**'. This **gift** is of great worth to the **Boss**, and the giving comes at great cost, It is so glorious and special, in fact, that a 'host of angels' surrounds it; important people pay tribute to it; ordinary neighbors wonder at its arrival.

This season, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may we be thankful for all those special people, those relatives and friends whom God has placed in our lives to care for or encourage-what gifts they are, what a gift **He** is!

CLASSROOM NEWS

Teaching almost 100 students the basics of English language has caused our small teaching team to experience a mixture of frustration, discouragement, and optimism.

Definitely one of our joyful moments was recently having our small sitting room packed with 25 or so exuberant young girls from the DRC (Congo), all singing French, English, and Swahili, dancing, and drumming up a storm.



Coffee Fellowship

Grass Valley United Methodist Men

Starting in March, the men of GVUMC are going to give the ladies a break from serving coffee after each worship service. Dick Servaes and Howard Coffey will be working on the schedule for both Services in March.

Please step up and help provide a break for the wonderful ladies of GVUMC.

Spiritual Discovery! Lenten Art and Words Class Thursday --7 Weeks 2-3:30 February 18—April 1

Rev Tana will lead a class of both painting and discussion based on the book, ***Recovering the Scandal of the Cross: Atonement in the New Testament & Contemporary Contexts.***

By Joel B. Green & Mark D. Baker

As Green and Baker demonstrate, the New Testament Displays a rich variety of interpretations of the cross. These were shaped by the church in mission as it rooted the saving story of a scandalous cross in the language of everyday realities and relationships. But for many Christians today, not only has the true scandal of the cross been obscured, the variety of its NT interpretations have been reduced to sub points in a single, controlling view of the atonement. Tragically, the way in which the atonement is frequently and popularly expressed now poses a new scandal, one that is foreign to the NT and poses needless obstacles to twenty-first-century peoples and cultures.

This is a spiritual discovery class and is designed to be both fun and illuminating. The class is not for everyone, seekers will enjoy this the most. The painting will be as simple or complex as you would like it.

Beginners are encouraged to join me in learning how to paint theologically (I think that is a new term). We have all the supplies, books will be available at the class to purchase. You are welcome to drop in or attend every class. Wear something you can get messy.

To sign up - **CALL 272-1946 pastor line 3.**

Prayer and Quiet Time

Join Rev. Judith Pruess-Mellow, Marilyn Wilson and others for this time of quiet and contemplative prayer, 2nd and 4th Weds., Chapel, Grass Valley UMC, 4:15-5pm.

Call Judith for info, 274-3354

SPIRITUAL BRAIN FITNESS

Sponsored by --

**Grace United Methodist Church
3600 Walton Ave., Yuba City, CA
10:00 - 2:00 pm**

First Tuesdays, Feb. - May, Sept. - Dec.

Presented by Judith Pruess-Mellow, Ph. D.

Each session includes worship, labyrinth walk, expert research on the aging brain and discussion/practice of these topics:

- 1: Why brain fitness? Maintain a healthy brain, mind, body and spirit. (Nutrition - Exercise - Humor - Spirituality - Meditation - Stress management.)
- 2: Memory (Strategies for enhancing and using all the senses.)
- 3: The Arts (Music, identifying pitch, clapping rhythms, playing instruments, singing, creativity, movement.)
- 4: Spiritual brain boosts (Games and exercises.)
- 5: Action plans for follow-up: annotated bibliography, including websites.

**Call Rosemary Landry - 530-673-7832
or e-mail judithpm@theunion.net**

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

02/01	Bev Martin
02/02	Cyril Hughes
02/03	Ross Jackson
02/03	Lydia Houck
02/05	Joe Harris
02/06	Audrey Noel
02/07	Thelma Jackson
02/07	Alvin Emerson
02/08	Marcella Smith
02/10	Marian Hart
02/10	Jim Gratteau
02/12	Wilma Croly
02/12	Janice Thomas
02/12	Roxanne Harris
02/12	Jaron Dickson
02/14	Howard Hyatt
02/17	Tracy Slaughter
02/23	Benjamin Hawley
02/26	Gordon Beatie
02/28	Ina Hughes
12/28	Charlie Collins
02/29	Marilyn Logan

New Church Office Hours

Beginning December 1, 2009 the church office will be closed at 12 noon on Tuesday and Friday. If you have any business with the office please try to have it completed before these closing times.

Thank you,
Your SPR Committee

HOW TO REACH PASTOR TANA

There are several ways to reach Pastor Tana.

*Office Hours: Wed & Fri 10:00-12:00 AM

*Pastor's days off: Monday & Tuesday

Please call for appointment.

*Church phone: 272-1946

*Emergency (24/7): 274-8370

*Pastor's home phone: 274-8370

*Pastor's e-mail address: pastor@gv-umc.org

Please call Pastor Tana for appointments.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR CHURCH ?

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Wed. - Thurs.	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Tues. - Fri.	8:30 am - Noon

COMMITTEES

Church Council	3rd Friday	8:00 am
Church & Society	1st Monday	4:00 pm
Finance	2nd Wed.	6:30 pm
Missions	As Scheduled	
SPRC	1st Wed.	10:00 am
Trustees	1st Friday	9:00 am
Worship	4 th Thurs.	10:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children	Sundays	8:45 am
Adults	Sundays	9:00 am

BIBLE STUDY

Adults	Mondays	1:30 pm
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PRAYER

Contemplative Prayer		
2nd & 4th	Wednesday	4:15 pm
Prayer and Share	Sunday	6:00 pm

MUSIC

Wesley Ringers		
Hand Bells	Thursday	6:15 pm
Choir Practice	Thursday	7:45 pm

WELCOMING ADULT GROUPS

Men's Breakfast		
At IHOP	Wednesday	7:30 am

Pasty Bakers		
Call Gordon Beatie	477-8485	

Circuit Writers Critique Group		
Call Jan Collins	272-4905	

CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP

Friendly Visitors		
Call Church Office	272-1946	

Stephen Ministers		
Call Judy Emerson	432-5899	

NEWS LETTER – CHAPEL CHIMES

Alvin Emerson - alvingvc@msn.com

THE CHAPEL CHIMES

236 S. Church St.
Grass Valley, CA 95945

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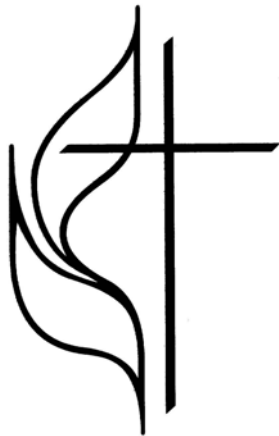
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OPEN HEARTS

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

OPEN MINDS

OPEN DOORS



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GRASS VALLEY

Tana McDonald, Pastor
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Grass Valley, CA 95945-6704
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Website www.gv-umc.org

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world by focusing
on three discipleship areas:

Spiritual discovery for everybody
Outreach to our community and world
Nurture and care for our congregation
"Focus on the SON"