

# CHAPEL CHIMES



GRASS VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

Feb. 1, 2009

Vol. 159, Issue 2

## U M W

The February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting will start with the Executive Board Meeting at 9:30am in Susanna Wesley Room. The Continental Breakfast at 10:30am will be served by our hostesses, Anna Howard Shaw Circle.

The General Meeting will be held in Wesley Hall at 11:00am.

The program this month is entitled "Where Does the Money Go?" Donna Slaughter procured Sherrill Sweeney, our UMW District Treasurer, to present this program. We have invited Sherrill and several others from Pioneer United Methodist Church, and Pioneer United Methodist Women, to join us for the Continental Breakfast, and fellowship at Grass Valley.

The Call to Prayer and Self Denial Offering will be collected at this meeting.

Thank you so much Dr. Joan Venes for the informative and lively program in January. UMW has lots of interesting programs for the rest of the year and we hope all of you will mark your calendars for the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month to attend UMW.

## WANTED - ALIVE

## A VOLUNTEER – ONE

( OR MORE )

## NEEDED !

There is a potential for our Church to collect hundreds of dollars from local grocery stores.

**\$ \$ \$ Our Church is missing an opportunity to collect \$ \$ \$ \$.**

The **\$ \$ \$ \$** are missing because we do not have a coordinator to tell our congregation what has to be done.

**WE NEED \*\* YOU \*\* to lead this program !!!!!!!**

Call the church office **NOW !!**



I am so glad that I procrastinated about writing this column. Ever since a couple weeks before Christmas I have been thinking that I would write about the incarnation. That line in the third verse of "O Little Town of Bethlehem" always gets to me; "Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in" What does it

mean to allow Christ to enter into our lives? What does it mean to allow him to grow and blossom within our hearts? How do we as a Church become the 'Body of Christ'?

This morning Rev. Earl did a masterful job of filling our pulpit; giving me a chance to heal and to be blessed by his preaching and teaching. He too wanted to talk about the incarnation. He reminded us all that there is so very much we have heard, seen, experienced, received and been called to do to incarnate Jesus. He reminded us that Jesus said to his disciples, who marveled at all that he had done, that after he left, "Y'all will do greater things than these" He reminded us that we together are the body of Christ; called to be Christ in an ailing world.

There is always a risk when we step out and let the Holy Spirit empower us to use the gifts given to us for the good of all. Being focused on the kingdom of God, means to be focused on things that are not of this world. Being focused on the way of Jesus is always to be focused on truth, justice, kindness, peace, forgiveness, grace and love. It means that we will be called naïve, or trouble makers; ridiculed for rocking the boat or asking too much of ourselves and others. Following in Jesus footsteps leads to a place of crucifixion.

And yet... That is the expectation for those of us who call ourselves disciples of Christ. We have been called through our baptism to a new life which is in Christ, a new way of living; of walking, talking, dreaming and expecting. We have indeed been called to live as citizens of the Kingdom of God which is being realized in our midst. A place where sins are forgiven and we are called to get up and walk. And where we are called to forgive the sins of others and invite them to get up and walk alongside of us.

Rev. Earl asked us to have great expectations about who we are and are to become to be the body of Christ. As 2009 unfolds may our personal prayer be, "Most Holy God give me the expectation of what you want me to become" and may our prayer as this body of Christ be, "Give us the expectation of what you want us to become in this place and time for the furthering of your kingdom. Amen."

*Barbara J. Smith*



## PERSPECTIVE

And shall I say that all delight is past?  
Because I've reached an age where flesh may fail?  
Am I but shriveled leaf, as wintery blasts  
Of time-fed winds o'er feeble stems prevail?  
Now must I find faint joy in memory  
Of what has been, what I did once achieve?  
Is hope of future strength but fantasy?  
I tell you, "No!" Please hear what I believe:

My life is just begun. One newly born,  
I've been in "Kindergarten" all this while.  
This is not sunset: I await the morn  
When I begin, in youthful grace and style,  
To do what God created me to do,  
To serve, and love, and strive, and think, and praise.  
It may well be, years left to me are few;  
But then, before me stretch eternal days!

-Earl Leonard Languth

## Lunch & Supper

**Beginning in February our church's ministry "Lunch at the Crossroads" will begin to serve lunch on the first and third Fridays at 11:30. This is in addition to our joint ministry of "The last Friday Supper" which serves dinner the second and last Friday of each month. Your help is needed to cook, serve and clean up. Talk to Pastor Barb or anyone on the Church and Society Committee.**

**Barb Smith**

## Staff Parish Relations

SPR is your church committee that deals with the relationship between staff and the congregation. The Methodist Book of Discipline lists the duties of the committee. We are responsible for assisting the pastor and staff in assessing their gifts and setting priorities, we are to encourage, strengthen, nurture, support, and respect the pastor and staff and their families and it is our job to promote unity in the church. In order to do our job effectively we need feedback from the congregation. The most difficult aspect of our job is dealing with rumors. If you want to know about something, have something that you want done or something is going on you don't understand please talk to a member of the committee. The members are, Lindy Beatie, Bob Briel, Margaret Currier, Bill Croker, Joan Heinshon, Jay Shuholm, Jan Sherman, Jennifer Boss and Kay Beeman. We will do everything in our power to respond to your inquiries.

## **SIMON**

Big Simon is a fisherman, the best I've ever seen.  
We beach our boat right next to his, and dry our nets between.  
He's big, and gruff, and speaks his mind,  
A real man's man you see.  
And yet, you know, he's really kind,  
A finer friend you'll never find,  
A great heart, generously inclined—  
Or so it seems to me.

His wife, she died two years ago (she had the best of care)  
In giving birth to their first child, while he paced praying there.  
Our village midwife did her best  
But when her work was done,  
We dug two graves and laid to rest  
The mother and their son;  
He stood alone—aloof, remote,  
(Then wept unheeded on his boat.)

His wife had brought her mother old, with whom their house was shared.  
She had no other living child, but she to leave prepared;  
Yet Simon would not hear of it,  
"You must remain," he said,  
"When I come home, and fires are lit,  
We'll share our fish and bread;  
You'll keep the house, I'll fish the sea;  
I'll cherish domesticity."

Big Simon is a fisherman, the kindest I have known.  
His dead wife's mother lives with him; at least he's not alone.  
He went to hear that prophet John;  
Came back the other day.  
He's found great things to think upon,  
Preoccupied, I'd say—  
He says Messiah he has met,  
A man that he cannot forget.  
So is he home to stay?

-Earl Leonard Langguth

## **THANK YOU !!**

*The Trustees wish to thank Girl Scout Troop # 154, under the supervision of Dorothy Miller, for the recent completion of their garden project in front of Pastor Barb's office.*

*Stop by and take a look – they did a great job.*

*Thanks Dorothy, we all appreciate your efforts.*  
– Marlene Fowler

## **ANOTHER THANK YOUR !**

Many thanks to Isabella Thoburn Circle for the lovely poinsettia and thanks to all the church members who signed the Christmas card sent to me. It brought joy to my heart.

Jean Ferguson

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

March 4<sup>th</sup>, the Revivalists (Claude Conley, Erwin Peyton, Jerry Wood) will serenade us at our Senior Social Luncheon. July 2006 was their last performance for us. It's been too long. We are more than ready to hear them again. There will be a reminder closer to time, but put this on your calendar so you don't miss it.

Marilyn Wilson - 274-8952

## **UPDATE**

The TU B'SHEVAT (Birthday of the Trees) ceremony at the Synagogue will be on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. A meat-free (dairy and eggs are okay) pot luck dinner will be at 5:00 p.m. and a worship service at 6:00.

We're invited to attend either or both. Their phone number is 477-0922.

Jan Collins

## **NEW ADDRESS**

*Fran Whipple has a new address.  
1501 Ptarmigan Dr. # 4A  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595*

## A MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

– Carolyn Croker

The Missions Committee held a successful Advent Season “Alternative Gift” program in offering a variety of gifts to honor family and/or friends. In addition to HEIFER INTERNATIONAL, we offered alternative gifts to UMCOR projects, NOTHING BUT NETS and PHONE CARDS for our military men and women serving overseas. \$1315 was sent to Heifer International; \$380 was sent to Nothing But Nets (in addition to the \$1035 collected throughout the year and on the August 5th Sunday Special offering); \$380 for the Phone Cards; and \$179 to UMCOR for school, health, layette and sewing kits and flood buckets.

We met all our 2008 commitments to our Missionary in Mozambique, the Kies in Zimbabwe, to the Peavys with FRONTIERS and our commitment to HOPE SECONDARY SCHOOL in Palestine. We had money left over in our Missions Account at the end of the year which the committee voted to share with the Missionaries. We sent each of them a little over \$200. We also sent an additional \$200 to HOPE SCHOOL with a VIM missionary from Sierra Pines UMC, Yvonne Turner, who left in December to teach English for 6 months at the School.

We received an “UPDATE from MUTARE”, a quarterly newsletter from Larry and Jane Kies, missionaries, we help support who are working with Africa University in Zimbabwe. Parts of this letter will be copied in another section of The Chapel Chimes. I think you will find it interesting yet disturbing. Your prayers for the Kies and their ministry, and for Zimbabwe, are needed as never before...and for all our missionaries, as well.

### “Update from Mutare”

– Larry & Jane Kies

This is a portion of the quarterly newsletter the Kies send out to all churches/individuals that are helping to support their ministry with Africa University in Zimbabwe

“We’ve come back (to Zimbabwe from their ‘home-leave’) to a dry land, although this is supposed to be the rainy season. Many fields have been plowed, but as yet sufficient rains have

not fallen for seeds to germinate. Food is in terribly short supply now. In town, we’ve been surprised to see a variety of groceries for sale...in shops selling in US dollars. At the first store we had a bill of \$38.50. When we gave the clerk \$40, we were given change of ten South African Rands and a packet of potato chips! We then feel guilty seeing the envy of others who wish they could fill a cart but have only Zimbabwe dollars. (In the 10 days we have been back, the unofficial exchange rate has jumped from Z\$2 million (for 1 US\$) to Z\$50 million.)

“We have not been directly affected by the recent cholera outbreak, but are extra cautious in our hygiene – and extra thankful for the excellent water and reliable electricity on campus.

“Our fund-raising for a new planter has almost reached the goal. If you wish to help with that fund, when we have surpassed what we need for a planter, we will identify another piece of needed equipment. (Half of our free-will offering ‘gift’ to the Kies, when they were with us in July, went toward this planter. We took up an offering of \$1,189.00 that evening. – C. Croker)

“We ask for prayers for -- food aid to reach starving people; -- a just resolution to the political turmoil that is largely to blame for the economic turmoil; -- new and deeper faith among Christians in times of trial.

“Once again, thanks so much to friends and family who help in many practical ways, and give us and others such encouragement and hope through correspondence and prayer and support! Yours and His, Larry and Jane Kies”

## WHERE ARE THEY ???

**One of the church's wheelchairs is not at the church !!**

**If you know where it is, please contact the church office.**

**Several of the listening devices are not in the container for people to use during church service. Again, if you know where they are, please contact the church office.**



HAVE A **GREAT** BIRTHDAY!

02/02	Cyril Hughes
02/03	Ross Jackson
02/03	Lydia Houck
02/04	Wilma Mennet
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	Juanice 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
02/28	Charlie Collins

### HOW TO REACH PASTOR BARB

There are several ways to reach Pastor Barb. Through these various contact points she strives to be **available at all times** for our people. Call Pastor Barb for appointments outside office hours.

\*Office Hours: Mon & Wed 10:00-12:00 AM

Call for appointment.

\*Church phone: 272-1946

\*Pastor's cell phone (24/7): 559-5661

\*Pastor's home phone: 273-5660

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

### WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR CHURCH ?

#### COMMITTEES

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

#### 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	4:45 pm
Prayer and Share	Sunday	6:00 pm

#### MUSIC

Striking Bells	Wednesday	5:00 pm
Wesley Ringers		
Hand Bells	Wednesday	6:30 pm
Choir Practice	Thursday	7:30 pm

#### WELCOMING ADULT GROUPS

Family Fun Activities	Call	272-1946
Men's Breakfast		
At IHOP	Wednesday	7:30 am
Pasty Bakers		
Call Dorothy Miller		273-7046
Circuit Writers Critique Group		
Call Jan Collins		272-4905

# THE CHAPEL CHIMES

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
GRASS VALLEY, CALIF  
PERMIT NO. 13

The Chapel Chimes is published once a month.  
Edited by Alvin Emerson  
Volume 159, Issue 2

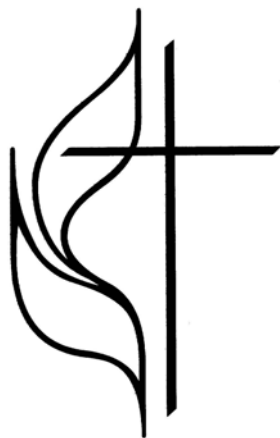
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**OPEN HEARTS**

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL**

**OPEN MINDS**

**OPEN DOORS**



## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GRASS VALLEY

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**OUR MISSION:** To make disciples of Jesus Christ.

**OUR VISION:** An alive growing, "on fire" church where individual lives are transformed by their relationship with Jesus Christ. Members pray and read the Bible daily, faithfully keep the covenants with God through their daily actions and minister to others.