

CHAPEL CHIMES



GRASS VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

May. 1, 2009

Vol. 159, Issue 5

U M W

May 7, 2009 is the next meeting of Grass Valley United Methodist Women.

Hostesses will be Anna Howard Shaw Circle serving a Cornish Cream Tea.

We will be talking about Susie Ernst's program from the April UMW meeting for a long time!! Susie presented her power point presentation of her trip, with Judy Sisneros, to Phnom Penh, Cambodia. They traveled many, many miles with a goal to teach girls rescued from sexual slavery how to quilt pillows. Susie and Judy shared their master quilting skills with Cambodian girls living in the Agape Restoration Center in Phnom Penh. This center is a transformative long term center for girls rescued from sexual slavery. Susie and Judy helped the girls to learn a skill they can use to earn a living. Susie's many pictures painted a beautiful picture of this city and its culture and its people. Susie showed the beautiful pillows made from silk and hand quilted by several of the room mothers and some of the young girl's. Thank you so much Susie for sharing this mission adventure with us!

(Cont'd page 4)

OUR NEW MEMBERS

What a pleasure it is this month to welcome four new members into our congregation. Helen Johnson moved here about a year ago from Tucson, Arizona. She is the mother of one of our other members, Barbara Johnson. Helen also has a daughter who lives in Placerville and a son in Portland. Before retiring, Helen taught school and worked in social work. She told me she is thoroughly enjoying our church and getting acquainted with the membership.



(Cont'd page 4)



Spring is bursting forth all around us; new leaves, new flowers and new growth on every shrub. It seems only fitting that this is the season when the ancient Israelites celebrated the Passover; a time to remember how God had saved them and brought them out of slavery and despair in Egypt. It was against the backdrop of the Passover celebration that Jesus' Passion was played out. After the Passover meal he instituted the last supper and gave the new mandate that they should love each other as he had loved them; as God had loved them. A reminder that God had always been there and always would be there, seeing their bondage and setting them free, redeeming them from despair.

Beyond that fateful night, we know the story of Jesus' own agony and seeming defeat and of his final triumph over the forces of bondage and death. Jesus' resurrection is about new life out of what had appeared to be only failure and death. The Easter message is that life triumphs over all that would hold us in bondage, lead us to despair and bring death into our lives; leading us to new vitality.

As our church moves into this Easter season we are in the process of allowing new life to burst forth among us. Changes are afoot that will lead us in amazingly faithful new directions. Our leadership has been deeply involved in a project that will bring vitality and fruitful practices of ministry to GVUMC. We have been tossing phrases around like: radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission & service and extravagant generosity. We can switch up the adjectives [radical, passionate, intentional, risk-taking and extravagant] with different activities [hospitality, worship, faith development, mission, service and generosity] and find a whole new set of possibilities. Each one a part of being a vital church and vital people.

All this is to say, this year as we move out of Easter into the abundance of summer, may we press forward toward the harvest of growth and new life that God has provided. What are the new possibilities in your life which are passionate, radical, risk-taking, intentional, and extravagant? How will God's gift of new possibilities and new life be revealed in you?

I can't wait to see.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara J. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



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

Everything on the site by either "Dichter1" or "Ferdinand" is his work. He frequently adds new poems.

STARS AND STONES

God chooses stars --
To write upon the night
His message of how small and weak we are
Those little twinkling pin-pricks high above
In silent distance do not speak of love
As overhead the constellations rove
In patterned shapes, wide scattered, near and far.

God chooses stones --
To speak from vale and peak
In strata that preserve the mystery
Of what this land was like, before we came
Then, snow and ice, or smoke and heat and flame
He makes it clear our world is not the same
Not even through that span called "history."

God chose the cross --
To spell out and foretell
Eternal love and life for every heart
To show the purpose of each star and stone
To tell us that we need not strive alone,
That death's fell threat is banished, overthrown,
And in His kingdom each may claim a part.

-Earl Leonard Langguth

ARGUMENTS

I once did not believe but now I do
You ask, which argument convinced my heart?
Deep philosophic talk about "first cause,"
"There must have been a god for all to start?"
Perhaps the evidence of grand design
That never things could just have happened so?
Or evolution's failure to account
For how by random change all life could grow?

I must confess, no argument profound,
No data nor statistic turned the tide;
It was not reasoning, nor clever words
That brought me, humbled, to the Christian side.

One evening I recalled a childhood prayer
With no intention faith to find or claim,
But simply as a courtship stratagem,
And instantly my world was not the same!

I had unlocked the door into my heart
And left it slightly open -- just a crack
When there burst in the grace and love of God,
So real that from it I could not turn back!
Experience, not argument, brought change
I could not doubt the Deity I'd met
This glorious God of love who filled my world
With peace and power and joy I'll not forget.

Those arguments of mind I'll not deny
There's truth in each and all, for what it's worth,
But nothing born in mind will change the heart,
Our Christ was right when He prescribed "New Birth!"
For God is not a construct of deft words,
And nothing found in logic can compel
For God requires the freedom found in love,
The god of argument resides in hell.

-Earl Leonard Langguth

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

Our hostesses were Mizpah Circle, they really put on a delicious Continental Breakfast, thank you so much and kudos to the ladies.

The May 7th UMW meeting will be a Cornish Cream Tea in lieu of the Continental Breakfast. Anna Howard Shaw Circle is practicing for the July 24th Cornish Cream Tea when our cousins from Cornwall will be in town for many wonderful days of entertainment and visiting.

UMW will be putting on the tea for our friends, be sure to sign up to serve, set up or clean up or even bake scones and other goodies, or make finger sandwiches for the tea. There will be sign up sheets available at the May meeting.

Executive Board at 9:30am in Susanna Wesley Room, 10:30am Tea, and 11:00am Program. Our speaker will be Cheryl Patterson, from Twin Cities Church, she will tell us all about her mission trip to Uganda, Africa, and her work there.

Be sure to mark your calendars for this interesting and informative program.

HAPPY SPRING!

(**OUR NEW MEMBERS** Cont'd from page 1)

Beverly Martin and her husband, Monte, came to our area from Southern California almost thirty years ago. They live on acreage along with a few goats, chickens, and dogs. Before retiring, Beverly worked in real estate. Her husband runs a company called "H2 O To Go." They are the ones with the wonderful pink water trucks you've seen around town. The Martins have four children, two are nearby and two live in So. Calif. Their family also includes nine grandchildren. They are members of the Sportsmen's Club and Beverly is enjoying having more time for fishing now that she's retired.

Rosalie Kearney is Beverly's mother and lives in a home on the Martin's acreage along with the goats, chickens and dogs! She moved here a couple of years ago from Decatur, Illinois. Before retiring, she had worked in clerical and

secretarial positions for several different firms. Rosalie enjoys music and previously sang in her church choir. She will be celebrating one of those big milestone birthdays in July, so we all wish you Happy Birthday a little early, Rosalie!

Our other new member, Marilyn Logan, moved here almost two years ago from the Bay Area, where she had been born and lived all her life. Marilyn has a daughter, who lives nearby, as well as a son and two granddaughters. At one time Marilyn worked in a lab, but when her children started school, she got a job in the school cafeteria. She said she started out washing dishes, but eventually became the manager. That's really learning the job from the ground up! Marilyn is now living at Eskaton, and is thoroughly enjoying taking advantage of all the activities they offer.

We welcome all four of these wonderful new members and hope they will soon feel right at home among us.

A SPIDER'S WEB

What is so perfect
About a spider's web
Besides the fact
That its maker
Has mastered
Spinning and threading
The star-like figure in the corner
On its very first try?
And that,
When beads of dew are strung on,
The spider looks like royalty
In its twinkling castle of thread?
And that a grasshopper
Couldn't escape its tight clutches?
And that it is transparent
Against a sky of grey, purple, black, or blue?
I don't know what's so perfect about a spider's
web.
Do you?
~Marie Wood 3/2009

(Editor's note – Is this child a budding poet or philosopher or a combination of the two?)

LEARN TO PLAY HANDBELLS

Have you been thinking you'd like to learn about handbells? Well, your chance is coming up this summer. We will be having a 5-week course in beginning handbells on Sunday mornings at 10:30, during the second worship service. The five weeks will start June 21 and go through July 19. Everyone wanting to experience this musical medium is welcome, whether you have a musical background or not. We will explore note reading and rhythms as needed by the group and will learn ringing techniques. Who knows, you may be the next talented ringer! Call Margaret Boothby, Director of Handbells, at 273-0186 to sign up.

By popular demand –

CREAM OF BROCCOLI SOUP

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| ¼ cup butter | 1 qt vegetable broth |
| 1 onion, finely chopped | 1 ½ tsp salt |
| 1 celery stalk | |
| + leaves chopped | ¼ tsp pepper |
| 1 carrot sliced & peeled | ½ tsp oregano |
| 1 bunch of broccoli + stems | 1 cup milk or cream |

Melt butter in skillet and sauté the onion until tender but not browned. Add the celery, carrot and broccoli and sauté for 5 minutes longer, stirring often. Add the broth, salt, pepper and oregano. Bring to a boil, cover and simmer for 25 minutes. Let cool. Puree in a blender. Return to a kettle. Add the cream and reheat until eating temperature.

(You can substitute asparagus or carrots for different soups.)

The next time you see Margaret Currier, you can thank her for sharing a secret family recipe.

SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION

See the bulletin board outside the Sunday School room for information on summer camps. For more information call Lindy Beatie @ 477-8485

LAY SPEAKING CLASSES

Grass Valley UMC is hosting two Lay Speaking Classes on Saturday, May 9. There will be two different classes, one Beginning and one Advanced.

The emphasis is shifting from having strictly Sermon preparation classes to having classes which prepare interested persons for leadership in their church. Please pick up a Flyer and Registration Form from Jim Hook or Nancy Thompson.

The cost is \$25.00 for an all day class and lunch and refreshments will be included. Nancy Thompson

Free Senior Health Information

Attn: Seniors with diabetes, arthritis, mobility problems. Brad Findeisen has his insurance license and Medicare license and wants to serve our community free of charge to connect seniors with Medicare and assure that you are taking advantage of all the services that Medicare provides. He knows all the current choices for free equipment. You can reach him at 273-517 or 273-5420 or on his cell phone 575-1447. If you have questions before calling him, call Marilyn Wilson at 274-8952.

MINISTRY OF THE FIBERS

**This ministry is provided by
"YARN WORKS"**

We have several knitters busily making shawls for people who have a special need to be wrapped in God's love. Since January, we have provided five shawls for those with that special need.

If you have a family member or friend who you think needs to be wrapped in God's love, please call Darcy Briel, 274-7855."

2009 Annual Conference Offering

Our Conference Offering this year will go to our West Angola Partnership – designated for the purchase of a John Deere tractor, disc plow, and cultivator for the Agriculture Training Farm near Porto Quipiri, north of Luanda. We will take the offering on May 3.

We thank you for your donations.

May Peace Prevail on Earth

Four Sunday School children asked the Church Council for permission to plant a “Peace Pole” between the roses and the sidewalk on our lawn. The Church Council said, “Permission granted”.

For those who have not heard of the Peace Pole, that the Peace Pole Project started in Japan in response to the bombings on Hiroshima. Peace Poles are handcrafted monuments erected the world over as international symbols of Peace.

The Peace Pole Project started in Japan in response to the bombings on Hiroshima. Peace Poles are handcrafted monuments erected the world over as international symbols of Peace.

Zach Alcantara told us about some of the extraordinary locations, such as the Pyramids of El Giza in Egypt, the Magnetic North Pole in Canada, Gorky Park in Russia, and Angkor Wat in Cambodia. They are healing of conflict in Sarajevo, the Atomic Bomb Dome in Hiroshima, and the Allenby Bridge on the border between Israel and Jordan.

Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama and Pope John Paul II have all dedicated Peace Poles.

We will be planting and dedicating our beautiful wood Peace Pole on Peace with Justice Sunday, June 7th. Everyone is invited. Meanwhile, the children will be accepting donations toward the cost of the Peace Pole at a table in Wesley Hall during May.

As Jesus said, “Peace be with you”.

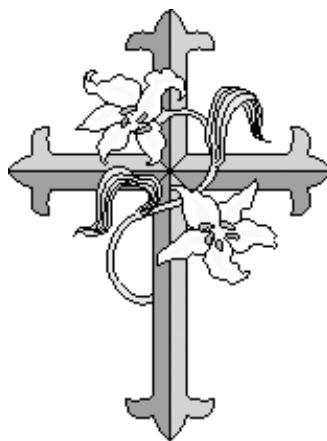
(For more information contact Mary Liebke or check online.)

April Finance Update

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Budget Income: | \$87,787 |
| Budget Spending: | 91,095 |
| Deficit: | \$-3,300 |

It's time to count our blessings and take the extra step to support our ministries.

Bill Beeman, Finance Chair



Dear Friends,

Warm Easter
Wishes from the staff
and students of
Hope School.

We thank each of you for your faithful prayers and support for our needy children. Your generosity has made it possible for us to continue our mission to educate our students and to deepen their Faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

During this semester the students have been busy with several activities. In our music class the choir is preparing for graduation, and some students are learning to play the flute as well as other instruments.

A group of students is studying for the Oxford Language exam, and spring traditionally brings out the competition between classes in basketball and football (soccer).

Our twelfth graders are preparing for their final exams and are looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead of them after high school. Your prayers are always needed for our students, especially for our twelfth graders.

In spite of our many successes we struggle financially to cover our monthly expenses. We trust our Lord to provide our spiritual and financial needs. As always the Lord never fails His Servants.

May the Risen Lord Bless each of you and your families, and enrich you with his Grace.

Gratefully, Solomon Nour
Director

Jesus Is Risen "El Masih Qam"

لمسيح قام

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

05/01 Susan Tomlin
05/02 Alice Simmons
05/03 Dale Boothby
05/04 Ireta Shuholm
05/06 Bea Harrison
05/08 Frank Foucher
05/08 Roye Wilson
05/15 Harold George
05/16 Robert Weaver
05/16 Donna Slaughter
05/18 Adele Goodnow
05/23 Bethany Harris
05/24 Thelma Stade
05/25 Dave Magrath
05/25 Julia Commons
05/27 Shirley Payne
05/28 Bill Beeman
05/29 Elva Minch
05/30 Cameron Peavy

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 |
|--------|---------|---------|

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 5

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

OPEN HEARTS

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

OPEN MINDS

OPEN DOORS



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GRASS VALLEY

Barbara J. Smith, Pastor
236 S. Church Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945-6704
Phone 530-272-1946
Fax 530-272-9416
E-Mail gvumc@gv-umc.org
Website www.gv-umc.org

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.