



First United Methodist Church

At this time, in this place, let us be the hands and heart of Jesus Christ for the world.

May 10, 2010

The Visitor

Volume 52, Issue 9

Hopes for Our Children: Saturday, May 29 — 9:30 to 3:00

The experience of being raised in a religious community can powerfully shape the lives of children and youth, and providing that experience is one of the most important things a church can do. The lives of adults are also shaped as they become partners in nurturing the spiritual lives of the church's children.

And it takes all of us. That's why we are asking you, *for one day*, to gather all of First UMC's resources—its people, its best ideas, its concentrated attention—to think and talk together about what it is we want for our children and our youth. We want to be sure that our programs for children are aligned with everything else we do; that they receive as much attention as they need in order to be done with excellence; and that they reflect the best of what we have to offer.

And so we invite you to participate in this day at the church—**May 29, 9:30 to 3:00**—which we are calling **Hopes for Our Children**.

We'll begin with a guest speaker, Susan Smith, who is an ordained deacon in the California-Nevada Conference of the United Methodist Church, with a specialty in children's and family ministries. We'll spend some time brainstorming about programs and goals, and a **Rule of Life**—a set of hopes for the ways we might all be in relationship with one another around the church. If we have a "code of conduct" that we are all committed to observing, no matter what our ages, we can be more effective in setting that expectation for our children as well.

This invitation is for you, whether you have ever

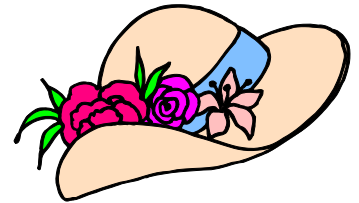
thought of yourself as part of children's ministries or not. You may not be involved in ministries with children ever again. But if you have ever been a child yourself, you have something important to add to our thinking.

Lunch will be provided as part of this day, and a children's program will be included. You may RSVP at (916) 446-5025, extension 106, or info@firstumcsac.org.

Please come. You are needed.

It's Tea Time!

Saturday, May 15 is almost here! Our silver service is being polished and the tea cookies are being baked. Now all we need is people to come and enjoy our hospitality. Some questions have come up, so here they are, with the answers:



- Do I have to wear a dress? NO.
- May I come, even if I haven't made a reservation? YES.
- Is there a charge? NO, but a basket will be available to receive a suggested donation of \$3.
- Is it lunch? NO. Sweet and savory treats will be served.
- May I come alone? YES. You will meet others there!
- Is there going to be a speaker? NO. This is a social event.



As a reminder, here are the details: If you wish to make/decorate a hat, come between 1:00 and 2:00. If you already have your hat, come at 2:00. All ladies

from birth on up are invited to attend. Bring friends and relatives. We will be done by 3:00. Childcare for boys and babies will be provided.

If you have any other questions, call Orene Dunzweiler at (916) 421-8205.

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...and **MORE**, inside & at www.firstumcsac.org

Mark your calendar

May 11 – 7:00 PM – Special Church Council meeting

May 16 – 12:00-1:30 PM – *Tools for Radical Hospitality*. A workshop led by Pastor for Urban Ministries Linda Kelly-Baker

May 29 – 9:30 AM-3:00 PM – *All-Church Retreat* – “*Hopes for Our Children*”

June 6 – Noon – Missions Faire



Twenty-first Families

Children's Ministries in May and June

9:15 AM Enrichment

- Baby and Toddler Care (through age 3) in downstairs nursery.
- Arts Adventurers (age 3 through kindergarten) in Room 202B.
- Art Enrichment for grades 1-8 in Room 201.
- Community Breakfast on third Sunday for grades 5-8 middle schoolers.

10:30 AM Sunday School

- Baby and Toddler Care (through age 2) in downstairs nursery.
- Godly Players (ages 2-4) in Room 202A.
- Godly Play for age 4 through kindergarten in Room 204 and grades 1-4 in Room 205.
- Middle School in Room 214.

Mark your calendar for these special events:

- May 16 — Baptism Bells — Practice at 9:15
- June 13 — Teacher Appreciation Sunday
- June 27 — Promotion Sunday
- July 4 — Picnic in the Pews
- July 11 — Summer Sunday School Begins

—Cathy Cook, Director of Children's Ministries

About Our Folks

♥ Our prayers and sympathy are with the whole **Salmon family** following the death of **John Salmon**. ♥

♥ Our prayers and sympathy are with **Clyde and Brenda Kidd**, following the death of Clyde's sister **Chris Henderson**. ♥

♥ Our prayers and sympathy are with the family of **Janis Schluckebier** following her death. ♥

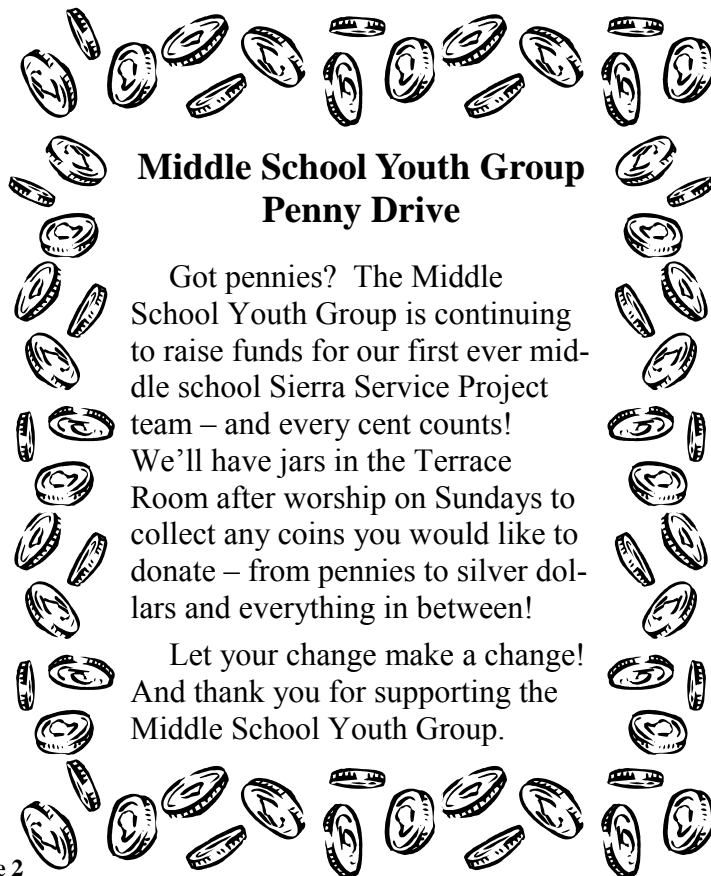
♥ **Marie Steppan** was in the hospital and is now home. ♥

♥ **Doris Baxter** had surgery and is recovering at home. ♥

♥ Congratulations to **Gabe and Julie Helms**, and to big brother **Cody**, as they celebrate the birth of their new son **Michael Owen Helms**. ♥

♥ Congratulations to **Jeremy Hoffman** on his recent graduation from Cuesta College with an AS degree in Architecture and an AA degree in Transfer Studies. Jeremy has been accepted into the Architecture program at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and will begin this fall. Jeremy's proud parents are **Debra and Don Hoffman**, and proud grandparents are **Tony and Eileen Riesinger**. ♥

♥ Please hold in your prayers **Elaine Jacobsen, Ardys Heilman** and **Phil Alford**. ♥



Middle School Youth Group Penny Drive

Got pennies? The Middle School Youth Group is continuing to raise funds for our first ever middle school Sierra Service Project team – and every cent counts! We'll have jars in the Terrace Room after worship on Sundays to collect any coins you would like to donate – from pennies to silver dollars and everything in between!

Let your change make a change! And thank you for supporting the Middle School Youth Group.

News and Notes from *United Methodist News Service*

Kayla Fullington and her infant daughter were days away from being homeless when she called the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. As a teenager, Fullington had lived for two years at the children's home in Enterprise, Fla. Now 19, with no job and no family for support, the home's staff welcomed her and daughter, Carena, with open arms. The home's Mother Baby Shelter is one of the many United Methodist ministries that serve mothers in need.

United Methodist churches across the U.S. Southeast opened their hearts and their doors to people stranded by weekend storms that killed some 30 people in Tennessee, Mississippi, Kentucky and Arkansas. The Nashville, Tenn., area and other parts of the state suffered their worst flooding on record. Support for the United Methodist Committee on Relief's response can be designated for "U.S. Domestic Disaster Response," UMCOR Advance #901670, and made online at <http://secure.gbqm-umc.org/donations/umcor/donate.cfm?code=901670&id=3018992>. [You may also donate by writing a check to First UMC, noting "UMCOR" or the specific Advance number on the memo line, and dropping your check in the offering plate.]

Guided by a century-old history of assisting immigrants, members of United Methodist Women joined others across the nation May 1 in making a public witness on the immigration debate. They held a rally and march – which drew about 2,000 people – during their April 29-May 2 United Methodist Women's Assembly in St. Louis.

United Methodist bishops and some of their spouses lined up in small groups throughout the morning May 3 for HIV/AIDS testing in Columbus, Ohio. The testing occurred as part of the Council of Bishops' May 3-7 meeting. Ohio West Area Bishop Bruce Ough said the action makes a public statement "that combating this deadly disease begins with testing."

Charlotte (N.C.) Area Bishop Larry Goodpaster, a former Mississippi pastor committed to engaging people in hands-on mission, took office May 7 as president of the international United Methodist Council of Bishops. He accepted the gavel for a two-year term, succeeding Illinois Area Bishop Gregory Palmer.

United Methodists rejected constitutional amendments that could have paved the way to make the church in the United States one of several regional bodies throughout the world. The United Methodist Council of Bishops announced that the 135 annual conferences defeated amendments that would have structured the U.S. church in the same manner as church regions in Africa, Europe and Asia.

The Rev. Michael Kinnamon, top staff executive of the National Council of Churches, told a May 2 gathering in New York's Times Square that nuclear weapons "are a crime against humanity" and must be removed from the face of the earth.

Susan Henry-Crowe, president of the United Methodist Judicial Council, called a special session of the court for May 21-22 in the Atlanta area. The denomination's nine-member supreme court will consider the legal status of two simultaneously conducted gatherings that were each identified as the Middle Philippines Annual Conference.

United Methodist Communications has launched a new Web presence for Korean members of the denomination. The site, <http://www.koreanumc.org>, includes news, commentaries, events, information for laypersons, sermon ideas for clergy, questions and answers about the denomination, and copies of a monthly newsletter and a bimonthly magazine.

Meeting April 19-22 in Manila, Philippines, the Committee to Study the Worldwide Nature of The United Methodist Church decided to leave issues of ordination of gay and lesbian ministers to General Conference. At present, self-professed practicing homosexuals are not eligible for ordination. "While some will view this as a victory for one side in the debate, the committee believes it best to advance the worldwide nature of the church and leave this process as it is," said Kansas Area Bishop Scott Jones, chair of the committee.

Phoenix Area Bishop Minerva Carcaño joined other faith leaders to oppose an Arizona law that many believe will result in racial profiling in order to reduce illegal immigration. "This bill does nothing to address any border security concerns," said the bishop. "The passage of SB1070 demonstrates why America needs comprehensive immigration reform. Frustration with our broken immigration system is driving Arizona to make inappropriate and self-defeating efforts in this area."

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PERIODICALS

DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY



***The Visitor* Deadline and Submission Info**

The Visitor is published twice monthly; a list of publication dates is available in the brochure racks or in the church office. **The deadline to submit items is the Friday before publication.** Items may be submitted by e-mail (preferred) or hard copy:

- **E-mail** to *Visitor* editor Cindy Haug-West (theVisitor@firstumcsac.org) **by 6:00 PM Friday**; please cc Dianne Smith in the church office (dianne@firstumcsac.org).
- Put **hard copy** items in Cindy's box in the church office **by 6:30 PM Thursday from September through June**, or personally hand them to Cindy by the end of the day on the Friday before publication.

Upcoming deadlines for *The Visitor* are:

- **May 21 (including June calendar)**
- **June 11**
- **June 25 (including July calendar)**
- **July 9**
- **July 23 (including August calendar)**
- **August 6**

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