



# First United Methodist Church

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

May 24, 2010

## The Visitor

Volume 52, Issue 10

### 2010 Missions Faire and Luncheon: Rethinking Church through FUMC Mission Opportunities

The United Methodist Church is urging the world to “rethink church” through a campaign that seeks to offer the church not as a building but as a movement of people empowered to transform the world. “What if church wasn’t just a building, but thousands of doors? Each of them opening up to a different concept or experience of church—and a journey that could change our world.” As our Bishop Warner Brown said, “Church is not a building, but a concept . . . not just a place we go, but something we do.” Isn’t the idea of “church” as a verb—implying movement and action—exciting?

On Sunday, June 6, the Missions Committee of FUMC invites you to a special 2010 Missions Faire and Luncheon following worship. You will have the opportunity to see the many ways in which FUMC is putting *church* into action in our community and around the world. The hands and hearts of FUMC members have been in motion for many years and are currently more active than ever. Did you know that:

- FUMC offers more than **seven** mission opportunities that you can get involved in right now?
- FUMC has at least one mission opportunity for every age group represented in this church?
- We are ready and eager to hear your ideas about

*(Continued on page 5)*

### Hopes for Our Children: All-church Retreat May 29

Dear friends,

It has been three years since I took the position as your Director of Children’s Ministries. At that time I thought that I had a general idea what the job might entail. What I have come to believe and to know in so many ways is that this ministry finds its way into every part of the fiber of this community of faith and touches every one of us in some way. God’s work through us to be in worship, to grow in spirit, and to work alongside one another in service within this community and into the world has deep roots in the history and the future of FUMC.

I am asking you to come and take part in the *Hopes for Our Children all-church retreat* on Saturday, May 29, from 9:30 AM until 3:00 PM. Your presence, your observations, your perspective and your life experiences are all important gifts you can bring and share as we work together to shape this ministry that affects and enriches us all and will be part of how we make the world a better place.

I look forward to a day that will lend support and vision to our children’s and youth ministries. Send an e-mail to either [info@firstumcsac.org](mailto:info@firstumcsac.org) or [dianne@firstumcsac.org](mailto:dianne@firstumcsac.org), or call 446-5025 X106 and let us know you will be there.

Thank you and see you on the 29th!

—Cathy Cook, Director of Children’s Ministries

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...and **MORE**, inside & at [www.firstumcsac.org](http://www.firstumcsac.org)

#### Special Charge Conference

There will be a special **Charge Conference** on **Sunday, June 13**, after the worship service, to vote on the proposal for reorganization of FUMC’s administrative committees, and to approve the nomination of new administrative officers. All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend and vote. District Superintendent Jerry Smith will preside.

## *Kathi's Keynote*

Everywhere you go around the United Methodist Church these days, people are talking about *Re-thinking Church*. This is the theme of the most recent advertising campaign of the denomination (and a wonderful website you can get to by Googling "Rethink Church"). It's how our Bishop has characterized the major pieces of legislation that will change the way we do business as the California-Nevada Annual Conference (more on that in my next *Visitor Keynote*, but you can see more at [www.cnumc.org](http://www.cnumc.org)). And it's how we might talk about our current proposal to change the way we organize our administrative committees at First Church.

Amy Price and Dave Evans did a wonderful presentation of that proposal at the special Church Council meeting on May 11, and we will vote as a full congregation on this proposal at a special Charge Conference scheduled for **Sunday, June 13**, just after worship.

Essentially, the proposal reduces the number of committees that meet every month, in favor of a large number of *Ministry Teams* that will meet as often as they need to, and for just the length of time necessary to accomplish the project or ministry before them. The overall responsibility for coordinated decision-making and big-picture thinking will reside in a smaller *Leadership Team*, whose primary purpose will be to make sure that everything we do, in every quarter of our congregation, is aligned with the purpose we speak every Sunday in worship:

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

Communication about what's going on will happen in a variety of ways, including regular after-worship lunches for the whole congregation, in which every interested person will be able to find out about everything they're interested in.

Why are we making these changes, when the Church Council system we have now seems to have worked just fine for a long time?

Because it's good to *re-think* the way we do church from time to time, so that new thoughts, new people, and new ideas can make their way into the center.

Because we believe this arrangement will allow more leadership opportunities for more people—especially for people who want to be involved, but who don't have enough time to make the church the

center of their midweek lives.

And especially because it's important for us to remember that our most important work as a church is giving every person the opportunity to engage in the four things that make the church a valuable asset for them:

Worship  
Opportunities to deepen faith  
Community  
Service

The time we spend maintaining and growing the *institution* of the church is simply a tool for allowing us to offer these things more fully.

I hope you ask questions if you don't understand this, or if it doesn't make sense to you. I hope you will come to the Charge Conference on June 13. And I hope you'll think and pray with us for the future of this church—that it will always be ready for the new ways God is calling us to *be church*.

With blessings and love,

*Kathi*

### **Remembering Janis Schluckebier**

Longtime church member and friend Janis Schluckebier died on April 27. For a variety of reasons, her family has decided not to hold a memorial service. But on Sunday, June 6, we will have flowers on the altar in Janis's memory. You are invited to share your memories of this delightful and independent woman with one another on that day, among others.

### **Huge Group Camp Needs People!**

We have a large group camp this year which has lots of room for campers. So if you think you might like to join us June 24-28, please contact Gary or Phyllis Varney at (916) 371-5019 or [gpvarney@yahoo.com](mailto:gpvarney@yahoo.com).

### **Church Perspective on the Ballot**

California Council of Churches IMPACT provides recommendations on the ballot propositions for those seeking the moral perspective of people of faith. IMPACT's recommendations are available at [www.churchimpact.org](http://www.churchimpact.org).

## Twenty-first Families

### Important Events Coming Up — Mark Your Calendar:

- May 29 — All-church retreat, *Hopes for Our Children*, 9:30-3:00
- June 13 — Teacher and Volunteer Appreciation Sunday
- Week of June 21 — Middle School Sierra Service Project
- June 25-27 — Family Campout
- June 27 — Promotion Sunday
- July 13 - August 15 — Staging A Miracle

### June and July

9:15 AM — Arts Enrichment for babies through grade 8.

10:30 AM — Sunday School for babies through grade 8.

### August and September 5

9:15 AM — Care for babies and toddlers only. Arts Enrichment will not be held.

10:30 AM — Sunday School for babies through grade 8.

—Cathy Cook, Director of Children's Ministries

## Sunday Morning Worship

### May 30

The final sermon in the “*Choose Life!*” series – with Lynn Dickerson

### Sermon Series

*You Can Be Passionate and Still Be Wrong*  
*Paul's Letter to the Galatians*

### June 6 – “An Abrupt Turn”

Galatians 1:11-24

Communion Sunday – Communion Offering to Francis House

### June 13 – “Essential Faith”

Galatians 2:15-21

A Blessing of Teachers

### June 20 – “We Are One”

Galatians 3:23-29

Baptism

Celebrating Kevin Manz's service among us

### June 27 – “How Do You Know?”

Galatians 5:16-22

Celebrating Linda Kelly-Baker's ministry among us

### July 4 – “Freedom's Just Another Word for...”

Galatians 5:1, 13-14

Communion Sunday – *Picnic in the Pews*

Communion Offering to Pastor's Discretionary

Fund

## STAGING A MIRACLE 2010

Dear Families and Friends of First United Methodist Church of Sacramento,

This summer *Staging A Miracle*, our whole-family arts program, will be held and your family is invited to participate.

The dates for the program are July 13 through August 15, with dinner and arts workshops for every member of your family on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5 PM to 8 PM.

For babies and toddlers there is quality, developmentally appropriate care.

For preschoolers and kindergartners there will be a mix of gymnastics, music and movement, and presentations by the Sacramento Public Librarians. This part of the program requires parent participation.

For children and youth, grades 1-12, there are

workshops around a theater production that will be performed on Second Saturday (August 14) and Sunday, August 15, during worship. The workshops will cover both onstage (music, dance, song, acting) and offstage (2-D and 3-D art, staging, costume creation, musical accompaniment).

Parents, grandparents and responsible adults will be offered offstage theater classes as well as music and art classes.

To be part of *Staging A Miracle*, you must fill out an application. You may call (916) 446-5025 X106 and leave your name and mailing address, or e-mail a request with the same information to [children@firstumcsac.org](mailto:children@firstumcsac.org).



# June 2010

		1	2	3	4	5
<b>Sundays at FUMC</b> 9:15-11:30 AM Infant/toddler care 9:15-10:15 AM Arts Enrichment for children; classes for adults 10:30 AM Worship; Sunday school for children and youth 11:30 AM Fellowship 12:00-2:00 PM Youth Group		7 PM Disciple (last class)	7 PM Imani Bible study 7 PM NA	5:30 PM NFY 5:30 PM SAM leadership 7 PM SGMC 7:15 PM Chancel Choir rehearsal		7 AM Prayer Walk 9:45-1:15 UMW meetings, luncheon, program
6 See <i>Sundays at FUMC</i> 11:45 AM Missions Faire and all-church luncheon	7	8 Election Day	9 8 AM Staff meeting 7 PM ACIM 7 PM Imani Bible study 7 PM NA	10 5:30 PM Feeding the Homeless benefit dinner & show 5:30 PM SAM leadership 7 PM SGMC 7:15 PM Chancel Choir rehearsal	11	12 Second Saturday 7 AM Prayer Walk 9 AM Youth fundraiser: E-Waste Collection 8 PM SGMC Concert
13 See <i>Sundays at FUMC</i> Teacher Appreciation Sunday 8:45 AM Missions Committee 9:00 AM Youth E-Waste Collection 12:00 PM Charge Conference in the Chapel 12:30 PM SPRC 6 PM Imani worship	14	15 9 AM Conf: Cultural Competency training 10 AM Board of Ordained Ministry meeting 4:30 PM Conf: Gathering with the Bishop 6 PM Board of Trustees	16 7 AM Conf: ATEM Gathering 5:30 PM Conf: District Dinner 7 PM Imani Bible study 7 PM NA	17 7 AM Conf: Local Pastors 9:45 AM UMW3 11:45 AM Conf: Interreligious Concerns 12:30 PM UMW2 5:30 PM NFY 7 PM SGMC 7:15 PM Chancel Choir rehearsal	18 7 AM Conf: Board of Ordained Ministry	19 6:45 AM Conf: UMW Conference 7 AM Prayer Walk 10 AM Imani makes bag lunches
California-Nevada Annual Conference						
20 See <i>Sundays at FUMC</i> 8 AM Community Breakfast 9:30 AM Youth Car Wash fundraiser 11:30 AM Reception in honor of Kevin Manz 6 PM Imani worship	21 5:30 PM Finance Committee	22	23 8 AM Staff meeting 7 PM ACIM 7 PM Imani Bible study 7 PM NA	24 Family Camp-out (thru June 28) 5:30 PM SAM leadership 6 PM Chancel Choir yearend BBQ and rehearsal	25	26 7 AM Prayer Walk 9 AM "Where the Church Meets the Street" 9 AM Scrapbook Fellowship
27 See <i>Sundays at FUMC</i> 8 AM Community Breakfast 11:30 AM Reception in honor of Linda Kelly-Baker 6 PM Imani worship	28	29	30 7 PM Imani Bible study 7 PM NA	ACIM = A Course in Miracles group Conf = California-Nevada Annual Conference Disciple = Disciple Bible Study Imani = Imani Community Church NA = Narcotics Anonymous/12-Step Program NFY = Not Finished Yet SAM = Staging A Miracle SPRC = Staff-Parish Relations Committee UMW(#) = United Methodist Women (Circle)		
Family Promise guests in residence June 27-July 4						

(Continued from page 1)

new mission opportunities?

Whether you are new to this church, have been here for many years or you are already involved in mission outreach, you are invited to come and hear about how you can join a team and transform the world while serving others through mission opportunities.

Lunch will be prepared and served by the FUMC Jr. High Youth Group. This fabulous group of youth and their leaders Danny Price and Kirsti Spiva are heading out this summer for their first ever Sierra Service Project Trip, providing services and outreach to our Native American neighbors.

We are grateful to have Ron Rowan, a current member of the California-Nevada United Methodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM) Board as our guest speaker and UMVIM presenter. Ron has led many VIM teams around the world and is eager to tell us what trips we have the opportunity to serve on in the coming year.

We look forward to sharing the excitement and possibilities with you! For more information, please contact Kris Errecart at (916) 224-1812.

Children's Ministry Projects • Community Breakfast • Family Promise • Faith and Homeless Families Initiative • Side by Side Ministries • Sierra Service Project • Staging A Miracle • United Methodist Volunteers In Mission

### Sermon Series Available

The sermon series entitled "Freedom: 12-Step Spirituality for Everyone Who Struggles" was well received based on the number of requests received for sermon copies. The series presented by Pastor Kathi McShane with Rev. Linda Kelly-Baker began on Sunday, January 10 and concluded Sunday, March 14.

We are now offering a compilation of these very thoughtful sermons in a pamphlet that includes an introduction and conclusion written by Pastor Kathi and a selection of references from which one can engage in additional study.

The pamphlets are available in the J Street lobby and are there for the taking. Please take one for yourself or a friend.



# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



## UMW Gathering, June 5

United Methodist Women will gather for its monthly general meeting and fellowship on Saturday, June 5.

Executive Committee	9:45 AM
Business Meeting	10:45 AM
Lunch	11:45 AM
Program	12:30 PM

Lunch will be pot luck. Circle 3 will set and decorate. Everyone will serve and clean up.

Our program will be an introduction to the Mission Education Events to be held this summer in Reno and Stockton.

All women of the church are welcome.

### Education Opportunities

Every year, in United Methodist Conferences around the world, United Methodist Women sponsors education opportunities for interested women, men and teens. Each year, there is a study in each of three areas of interest: Geographic, Spiritual Growth, and Mission and Evangelism.

At our June 5 UMW meeting (see article above), we will take a brief look at this year's topics:

- Geographic: "The Beauty and Courage of Sudan" will focus on the spirit of the people of the Sudan, and the hope that they will realize their dream of peace.
- Spiritual Growth: "For the Love of God: Epistles of John" focuses on modern day relevance of the epistles as God's Word.
- Mission and Evangelism: "Joy to the World" explores the flow of mission in the age of global Christianity.

Our June 5 program will be at about 12:30 following a pot luck luncheon. All women of the church are invited to attend all or part of the events of the day: Meeting at 10:45; Lunch at 11:45; Program at 12:30. Information on how to attend the Mission Education Events will be distributed.

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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:**

- **June 11**
- **June 25 (including July calendar)**
- **July 9**
- **July 23 (including August calendar)**
- **August 6**
- **August 27 (including September calendar)**

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