



First United Methodist Church

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

April 2011

The Visitor

Volume 53, Issue 3

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Since November Larry and I have been your pastors. I know I speak also for him when I say it has been a privilege and a pleasure to take this break from retirement to serve with you. We have felt the warmth, the faith, and the commitment of this congregation. Several people have asked me recently what I will do when I am not at First Church. In retirement I have several commitments and lots of things that fill my life. I'll be serving as president of the Retired Clergy Association beginning in June and am active with Yolo Hospice. First of all, I'll go to Georgia to see my grandchildren!

You will be welcoming two new members of our staff on May 1: Pastor Don Lee and new Director of Music and Worship Arts, Jeffrey Moore. Larry and I have met with Don Lee and are trying to assist with his picking up the pastoral work here. Don will be a wonderful pastor to serve First Church and has the vision and commitment to lead the congregation in becoming a vital congregation. On April 10 I will take a break from Lenten themes to speak about some of the issues of transition for pastors.

In the meantime, we are in Lent and moving toward the Easter celebration. May this season of renewal and hope fill the life of this congregation.

With all the changes and opportunities that are on the horizon, this season calls us to hope with a deep awareness that through all the changes Christ is with us, nudging us to fulfill our calling.

It is also a great time to invite your friends to join you in worship at First Church. We are a congregation of hospitality and welcome. I will look forward to seeing you at worship during April as we celebrate these great days of the Christian year.

Peace,

We here at FUMC wish to thank John Sublett and Larry George for their dedication to us, the congregation, while we were waiting for a permanent replacement. More will be written next month regarding our new pastor, Don Lee, to welcome him aboard. Thanks, John and Larry for your incredible thoughtfulness. We all love you both!



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She's Back!!!

We are very grateful our Administrative Assistant **Dianne Smith** has returned to the church office! Dianne had successive hip replacement surgeries in November and January, and continues on the recovery road in great spirits. We are also deeply appreciative of the presence and daily effort of **Terry Haug** during Dianne's absence.

...and much more, inside & at www.firstumcsac.org

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, APRIL 3 – COMMUNION

John Sublett will be preaching a Lenten sermon from John 9:1-41, “Seeing with New Eyes”. Can we see the world through the eyes of Christ? The Communion offering will be for the One Great Hour of Sharing.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

“Prepare the Way” will be the title of John Sublett’s sermon. He will be speaking about preparing the way for a new pastor. What can a congregation do to help the pastor be fruitful in ministry within the congregation? The scripture lesson will be Matthew 13:1-9

After the service, we’ll join together in the Terrace Room for cake and coffee to say farewell and thank you to John Sublett and Larry George for their leadership and compassionate care of our congregation during this time of transition

SUNDAY, APRIL 17 - PALM SUNDAY

On this Sunday before Easter John Sublett will be preaching a sermon entitled “A King Like No Other” Can we discern the irony of Palm Sunday? The scripture lesson will be: Luke 23:1-5, 26-37. We will also be confirming the confirmation class for this year. At the conclusion of the service we will strip the altar, symbolic of the Holy Week before us.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 21 AT 6:45 PM

A service of music and the word will lead us to contemplate the events of Holy Week, especially Jesus’s Last Supper with his disciples and his crucifixion. We will share the sacrament of Communion and have times for reflection during this service. Child care will be available during the service.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24 - EASTER SUNDAY

SUNRISE SERVICE - FUMC will join with the Imani congregation to welcome Easter day in the courtyard at Sunrise, 6:15 AM. Greet the day and join in the shout, “Christ is Risen!”

AT OUR 10:30 SERVICE, which will be filled with music and praise, John Sublett will deliver a sermon entitled “From Death to Life--- Then and Now.” The scripture lesson will be John 20:1-18. This will be the final service for John as well as Larry George,

SUNDAY, MAY 1 - A HISTORIC SUNDAY FOR FIRST CHURCH

Join us for Communion and the welcome and installation of a new pastor and a new director of music. Rev. Don Lee will be preaching and serving Communion. Jeffrey Abbott, Director of Music and Worship Arts, will be at the organ and directing the choir. Karla Lundin, our Director of Children and Youth ministries will also be installed as part of our staff. Don’t miss this important day in the life of our congregation. After the service, we’ll greet and welcome our new pastor and directors at a reception in the Terrace Room.



About Our Folks

♥ **Fred Hoyt** continues to have frequent blood transfusions as an out-patient ♥ **Nola Agha**, daughter of Irene and Marvin Brown, is continuing extensive chemotherapy treatment. ♥ **Carl Thomas** has concluded his chemotherapy treatments. He will begin daily radiation therapy April 4, estimated 3 weeks' duration. He's feeling well and in good spirits. ♥ **Larry Sidener** is awaiting the results of a biopsy on March 21, to determine the nature of a pancreatic tumor, in anticipation of chemotherapy.

♥ **Nell Alford** is scheduled for surgery soon for a carotid artery blockage. ♥ We are grateful that **Connie Fanos** sustained only minor injuries, and is recuperating well, after her car accident. ♥ **Mark McDaniel, Keith** and **Mary's** son in Kansas, received the good news that an earlier diagnosis of multiple sclerosis was not accurate. Further tests and therapy continue. ♥ **Bonnie Churchill, Jackie Thompson, Delight Trotter, Eltweed Pomeroy**

NOT DANCING YET, BUT SOON!

Friends and Colleagues,

It has been a long journey of hip surgeries, physical therapy and rehab beginning November 18, 2010 and ending upon my return to work Monday, March 14, 2011.

I am glad to be back at this desk and also happy that this journey has come to an end. Along the way I learned some important lessons about the love of family and friends; the miracles of medicine; the kindness of caregivers; and something about self. I have been lucky in the past not to have had medical issues, so to be in the hospital and rehab twice and for such periods of time were startling to me. I started out with an independent streak and quickly learned that I just had to give up this independence to those who were caring for me and trust our spiritual Father.

So many in this congregation offered continuous notes of encouragement and these always arrived at just the right moment. There were many who made visits during my rehab to offer cheer and little keepsakes or chocolate chip cookies which helped to bolster my spirits. THANK YOU ALL! I am currently walking with a cane, and will continue to gain strength and confidence. I tell everyone that I should be able to “rumba” by Christmas.

A special thank you to Terry Haug as she ably cared for the office and church programs/repairs in my absence. Kay Becker and Ginny Beebe also offered support to keep the office procedures humming. To pastors Larry George and John Sublett thanks for your hospital visits, prayers and family care. All of you made the journey a bit



REMEMBER! On Saturday, April 2, 2011, your eager FUMC *Volunteers In Mission to New Orleans* will sponsor their grand event. Is the thought of flavors of

Cajun and Creole cuisine making your mouth water? They are treating us to a scrumptious dinner! You definitely won't miss the beads or the masks—they have plenty of those, too! Or don your own mask and neck full of beads from past Mardi Gras celebrations. There will be really great prizes to raffle and fabulous items in our silent

Extra, Extra! Read All About It!

Get Your *Visitor* by email! If you want all the news and you want it NOW---the *Visitor* via email is for you! There are a number of reasons to choose this option, not the least being you'll receive your *Visitor* much



sooner, and you'll see all the graphics in glorious color. And it's so easy to do! 1) go to www.firstumcsac.org/news-events, 2) enter your e-mail address in the "E-mail" box, 3) select "Subscribe" and 4) then "Submit." That's all there is to it. The system will send you an e-mail to confirm the request.

Now, if you really don't want to receive more email, you can always go to www.firstumcsac.org and view the *Visitor* online. And, there you'll also find past issues archived. So if something you read in the *Visitor* last month or the month before has been nagging at the back of your mind, you can go to the archives and find it easily.

DID YOU KNOW?

SUMU has worked on New Church Development by helping with the pastor's salary at Oak Park UMC to improve its place in the community. For the past year, THE TABLE (SUMU) is assisting with salary. THE TABLE began meeting in small coffee houses/pubs and now has 80-90 people involved, based at Central UMC.

For the past twenty-five years, Doris Baxter has been our representative at SUMU. This group has met in different churches in order to see how other congregations handle things.

After so many years, Doris is anxious to have others go with her to see and hear what transpires in other United Methodist Churches. When she can longer serve in this capacity, she would like to have someone take her place and have a feel as to what would be expected.

This year is the 100th Anniversary of SUMU and Doris is serving on the anniversary committee. Please get in touch with her if you have any questions or can participate in any way.



April 2011



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

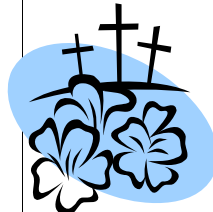
Sat

Sundays at FUMC
 9:15-11:30 AM Infant/toddler care, Children's Enrichment programs, Adult Education
 10:30 AM Worship; Sunday school programs for children and youth; Infant/toddler care
 11:30 AM Fellowship
 12:00-2:00 PM Youth Group
 6:00 PM Imani Community Church

ACIM = A Course in Miracles group
 Imani = Imani Community Church
 NA = Narcotics Anonymous/12-Step Program
 NFYW = Not Finished Yet group
 SGMC = Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus
 UMW = United Methodist Women (# = Circle)



						1	2
							7:00 a.m. Prayer Walk 5:30 p.m. A Taste of New Orleans
		5	6	7		8	9
See Sundays at FUMC			6:15 p.m. Light meal and Lenten Series 7:00 p.m. Imani Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	9:45 a.m. UMW Meetings/Lunch 7:00 p.m. SGMC 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal			Second Saturday Art Walk in Midtown
10 See Sundays at FUMC	11 8:30 a.m. UMW Legislative Event & luncheon	12	13 6:15 p.m. Light meal and Lenten Series 7:00 p.m. ACIM 7:00 p.m. Imani Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Twelve Step	14 7:00 p.m. SGMC 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal	15	16 7:00 a.m. Prayer Walk Youth E-Waste Collection	
17 See Sundays at FUMC Palm Sunday	18	19 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees	20 7:00 p.m. Imani Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Twelve Step	21 9:00 a.m. UMW Circle 3 1:00 p.m. UMW Circle 2 6:45 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. SGMC 7:45 p.m. Choir	22 Good Friday	23	
24 Happy Easter!	25	26	27 7:00 p.m. ACIM 7:00 p.m. Imani Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Twelve Step 7:00 p.m. Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal	28 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	29 8:00 p.m. SGMC Concert	30 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal	
See Sundays at FUMC (No Community Breakfast) 12:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt 6:00 p.m. Imani Worship							



Youth Fundraiser

E-waste Collection

Saturday, April 16 8:30 am to 1 pm
The Youth will be hosting this e-waste collection to raise money for Sierra Service Project. Please bring any acceptable items to the church. Also, we will be collecting items prior to the e-waste event if you cannot make it on the scheduled date.

Please contact Karla Lundin:
kalajlundin@gmail.com or Cinde Dolphin:
cindedolphin@aol.com if you have any questions or need to make arrangements to donate prior to April 16.

We will accept: monitors, televisions, desktop and notebook PCs, VCRs, stereo equipment, speakers, keyboards, mice, PDAs, digital cameras, zip drives, telephones, cell phones, printers, copiers, laser and multifunction scanners and fax machines, microwaves, small household appliances such as toasters, mixers & blenders, vacuum cleaners with the dust bag removed
Things we CANNOT accept: Large Household Appliances (i.e. refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc.) Furniture, Hazardous Household Waste including batteries, car batteries, paint, pesticides, used oil, cleaning supplies, fluorescent light bulbs, tires etc.

FUMC and Other Community Contributors to be Honored

FUMC will be acknowledged, along with nine other community organizations and individuals, for outstanding contributions to the wellness of the community at a community event on April 15th from 5 pm to 9 pm in North Sacramento. People of the Way Ministries, a touring gospel ministry, will present an evening of gospel music, comedy, dance and spiritual insight featuring gospel musicians, comedians, dancers and speakers, and the congregation is invited to purchase tickets to this event. Tickets will be available in the Terrace Room after the service on Sunday, April 3rd. For more information contact peopleoftheway500@yahoo.com or call 916-772-0482 or visit the website at

Children's Ministries:



Easter Sunday, April 24

Keeping with our recent tradition here at FUMC, there will be an EASTER EGG HUNT on Easter Sunday right after the Worship Service.

*We are looking for donations of the colored plastic eggs and small candy items to fill these eggs. Please bring your items to the church office by Good Friday (April 22), or contact Karla Lundin.

ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH WILL STAY IN WORSHIP SERVICE ON EASTER SUNDAY.

There will be Child Care in the Nursery during the 10:30 am Worship Service (after Children's Time) for infants, toddlers, and younger Preschoolers if needed.

There will be **NO** 9:15 a.m. Child Care or Children's Activities on that Sunday.

UMW General Meeting, Thursday, April 7, 2011

9:45 am Executive Committee Meeting

10:45 am Business Meeting

11:45 am Lunch

12:15 pm Program:

Our speaker will be Marsha Spell from Family Promise. Lunch will be a surprise. Open Circle will set and decorate. Circle 3 will serve and clean up. All women of the church are welcome.

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PERIODICALS

DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY



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

The Visitor is published monthly. Each issue includes the following month's calendar. **The deadline to submit items is the Wednesday before publication.** Items may be submitted by e-mail (best) or hard copy:

- **E-mail** to *The Visitor* editors Connie Fanos and Lynette Fazio at **theVisitor@firstumcsac.org** by **6:00 PM Wednesday**. Be sure Dianne Smith (dianne@firstumcsac.org) in the church office receives a copy of your item via e-mail cc.
- **Hard copy** submissions may be delivered to the church office, or to the editors by prior arrangement. When delivering to the church office, plan enough lead time for staff to transmit items to the editors.

Upcoming deadlines for *The Visitor* are:

- **April 20**
- **May 25**
- **June 22**
- **July 20**

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