



First United Methodist Church

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

July 2011

The Visitor

Volume 53, Issue 7

PASTOR DON'S DABBLINGS

Greetings in the name of Christ!

I have just returned from another long, but exhilarating day at our California-Nevada Annual Conference. Three different occurrences made it exciting and hope-filled for me.

1. Our Annual Conference members shared lunch together and talked of the future of the church and the ministries of First Church. **Eileen Riesinger, Phil Dunzweiler, Terry Haug** and I explored the meaning of leadership and the joys of being persons who were deeply connected to the United Methodist Church. **Bob Peck** was not able to join us, but we were able to connect later and talk of the mission of the church. We are blessed with a fine group of leaders at First Church, not only our Annual Conference members, but all those who take on the mantle of leadership, preparing the church for a new round of vitality, embracing the FUMC slogan: Ancient Tradition, New Spirit.
2. Our Bridges District dinner in Capitol Park was a delight. The weather was superb and the company even better! Church representatives were seated together in our circuits, so we got to meet clergy and laity from the churches with whom we work most closely. This was a wonderful listening and learning experience. I spoke with Pastor Angel Betancourt and his spouse, Norma, a high school principal. Hearing of their ministry with the Latino community at Emmanuel UMC was enriching and
3. informative. They articulated not only the joys of their ministry, but also some of the frustrations and difficulties. They reminded me that the work we do for Christ is sometimes difficult, but if we keep God at the center, the burden is light. I also spoke with Francis Lee of Sacramento Japanese UMC, who spoke of the internment camp where her family had lived during World War II in Montana. She reminded me, in a very kind and thoughtful way, of the injustices we sometimes inflict upon each other. And also of the ways that healing can be accomplished with Christ as our guide.
4. Adam Hamilton, pastor of the Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, lectured on leadership in powerful ways and presented practical tools for ministry. The church is the largest in the denomination with 15,000 members and is driven by a focus on mission and vision to reach out to the non-religious and nominally religious, powered by the certain will of the congregation to carry out that to which Christ is calling them. This is a model for us all as we ponder together the future of FUMC in Midtown Sacramento and all the possibilities God has in store for us!

You will have the opportunity to hear more about Annual Conference in the coming weeks from those who attended. And hopefully, we will be able to pass on some of the excitement we all felt this past week in worshipping and working together as United Methodists.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Don

WORSHIPPING TOGETHER IN JULY

During July, our Chancel Choir takes a break and our organist Jeffery Abbott will be on vacation and pursuing continuing education. We will be sharing different styles of music this month, with a different style each Sunday. On July 3rd, we will sing and listen to bluegrass and country styles. Later in the month, we will include jazz, Latin, world, and gospel styles. Hopefully, we will enjoy this brief change in the music of worship and join together in singing God's praises!

**July 3 3rd Sunday after Pentecost -
Holy Communion - Picnic in the Pews**
Creation: Day Three - Fertile Ground
Genesis 1.9-13
Matthew 13.1-9

It's another good day for God. A real good day. This story of an abundant land filled with seed, vegetation, fruit might remind us of the seeds God plants in us to grow into the marvelous tapestry of life.

**July 10 4th Sunday after Pentecost
Creation: Day Four - The Lover's
Moon**
Psalm 148
Genesis 1.14-19

After many trips to the moon by humans and their machines, we might be tempted to turn it into a science experiment. But poets remind us of the power of the moon and the sun to illuminate our moods,

emotions. Perhaps when we ask "Why?", the moon and all the heavens will remind us of God's glory and purposes in our lives.

**July 17 5th Sunday after Pentecost
Creation: Day Five - Life!**
Psalm 103.1-5; 19-22
Genesis: 1.20-23

Last year, a new species of life was found at Mono Lake, a reminder of God's ongoing creative work. How is God's work manifest in your life? What rejuvenates you? What is your creative edge?

**July 24 6th Sunday after Pentecost
Creation: Day Six - Our Task**
Genesis 1.24-31
"Dominion"...misused to the point of abuse. Humans have misinterpreted the word "dominion" for ages. Native Americans provide us with a different model of "dominion", which is care for the world and living sustainable lifestyles.

**July 31 7th Sunday after Pentecost
Creation: Day Seven - Rest in God**
Genesis 2.1-3
Luke 13.10-17

God declared the Sabbath Day holy in the Ten Commandments...a day of rest. Jesus makes the point that rest includes freedom from bondage. What keeps you in bonds? TV? Money? Work? Perhaps the day of rest will give time for Jesus to bring healing to you.

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Pay it Forward: The Art of Kindness

The time is approaching for **Staging a Miracle 2011**. Our theme this year is: **Pay it Forward: The Art of Kindness**. Staging a Miracle is a beacon of hope and opportunity enriching underserved families of Sacramento by offering a quality arts experience to enable and inspire each individual to lead a successful life of choice, purpose and service.

Workshop Supporter Volunteers Needed:

Please be part of the Miracle (**SAM 2011**) this summer by volunteering to be a Workshop Supporter, beginning July 9th and ending August 13th. Workshop Supporters work alongside artist teachers, fellow volunteers) to teach and inspire children and youth on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-8pm and on Saturday afternoons from 1-4pm. You are welcome to choose any schedule that works for you! We will be happy to have you when you are available.

How can you volunteer?

Send an email of the times and dates you would like to be part of **SAM 2011** to sam@firstumcsac.org, or call and leave a message on our **SAM** phone line at 446-5025 X120, or sign-up on the **SAM** volunteer board in the Terrace Room.

Please also mark your calendar to attend one of the important and informative volunteer orientation sessions on Tuesday, July 5th or Thursday, July 7th from 6-8 at the church. This orientation will give you a chance to meet our artist volunteers and fellow support volunteers, confirm your schedule, learn more about **SAM 2011** and fill out a background check permission form.



Financial Support Needs:

In addition to the many volunteers needed for **SAM 2011**, we also need your financial support. Regardless of size, all donations will be accepted and appreciated. Here is a list of sponsor levels you may choose:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Sponsor Level</u>
\$ 5	Caterpillar
<i>Buys a child's art supplies</i>	
\$10	Ladybug
<i>Buys a child's t-shirt costume</i>	
\$20	Firefly
<i>Buys a child a new pair of shoes</i>	
\$30	Dragonfly
<i>Buys a snack for 50 children</i>	
\$50	Butterfly
<i>Buys program printing supplies</i>	
\$75	Frog
<i>Buys paper good for the meals</i>	
\$100	Hummingbird
<i>Buys fabric for the Stage Backdrop</i>	
\$150	Bluebird
<i>Buys the ceramic projects supplies</i>	
\$250	Squirrel
<i>Buys the children's photos</i>	
\$500	Eagle
<i>Rents the stage sound system</i>	
\$750	Woodland Fairy
<i>Buys the entire program for a family</i>	
\$1,000	Gardener
<i>Buys transportation for one week</i>	

There will be a **Staging a Miracle Giving Tree** in the Terrace Room beginning June 26th with a table accepting donations for Staging a Miracle 2011. Donations will be represented on the tree by level, thus a donation of \$10 will place a Ladybug on the tree. Help us fill the tree and fulfill our vision of **Staging a Miracle**.

--Your SAM Leadership Team

Whassup with Youth?

July 2 (Saturday): Pool Party and BBQ at Karla's, 3pm - 6pm

July 3 - July 9: High School Sierra Service Project

July 10 - July 15: Jr. High Sierra Service Project

July 27 - July 30: Youth 2011 at Sacramento Convention Center

Youth 2011 is a National Youth Gathering for the United Methodist Church that happens every 4 years. This is the first time it's taking place in Sacramento! Check it out at www.youth2011.org:

- ✦ More Than a gathering - It's a commUnity to know you are not alone.
- ✦ More Than a concert - It's commUnion with our extraordinary God.
- ✦ More Than an event - It's a comMission to change your life and your world.

With speakers, bands, and talent, it is sure to be a life-changing event including Passionate Worship Experiences, Concerts, Bible Study, Small Groups, Workshops and Trainings, Interactive Exhibits, Onsite Mission Opportunities, Late-night Fun and Games and more!

If your youth is interested, please contact Karla @ karlajlundin@gmail.com

Also, many volunteers are needed for this event. If you, or a team from FUMC, are interested in volunteering, please contact Karla.



Children's Ministries

July 3 - No Sunday School, Children will remain in worship on this Holiday weekend. There will also be No 9:15 a.m. Children's Activities on this date.

Summer Sunday School:

Summer is here and with it comes several Sundays with many families away.

We also want to give a break to as many people as possible who have helped during the year in Sunday School, preschool, and nursery.

Therefore, we are planning to combine our Sunday School classes. This will be a fun time for all with lessons, arts and crafts, and more. Additionally, our preschool class will be held in the Library, next to the nursery. Questions? Contact Karla @ karlajlundin@gmail.com

A Huge Thank You to all who helped in Sunday School or mentored children and/or youth! We couldn't have done it without you, and we appreciate you!!

OUR VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION IN NEW ORLEANS
LETTIN' THE GOOD TIMES ROLL, HANGIN' SHEETROCK,
TAPING AND TEXTURING!



Team members are Cathy Cook, Mike Cook, Connie Delago-Langois, Phil Dunzweiler, Kris Errecart, Terry Haug, Beverly Ireland, Aaron Johnson, Dick Johnson, Don Lee, Michael McDoniels, and Diane P. Smith.

Our intrepid Volunteers in Mission left on Sunday, June 19, to be in service in New Orleans in the continuing effort to rebuild that city. They were hosted by St. John's UMC, and spent many hours in devotion and fellowship, in addition to applying lots of elbow grease to the work at hand. On the June 22nd they sampled the world-famous New Orleans cuisine. They returned Saturday night, June 25th, with many tales to share, no doubt!

.....And we celebrate our graduates!

8 th Grade:	A.J. (Adam) Archuleta, Carolyn Adams, Darniece Simon,
High School:	Kaylan Werley
College:	David Rae, grandson of Nancy Rae, from Point Loma Nazarene University

Congratulations and best wishes to one and all!

July 2011

Sundays at FUMC	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:15 am – Wired Word Study 9:15-11:30 – Infant/Toddler care, Children’s Enrichment programs, Adult Education 10:30 – Worship; Sunday School for children and youth; infant/toddler care. 11:30 – Fellowship hour 12-2:00 Youth Group 6 pm – Imani Community Church			Legend: <i>ACIM</i> = Course in Miracles <i>BS</i> = Boy Scouts <i>FY</i> = Forever Young <i>Imani</i> = Imani Community Church <i>IBS</i> = Imani Bible Study <i>NA</i> = Narcotics Anonymous	Legend (cont’d): <i>NFYW</i> = Not Finished Yet Women’s Group <i>SGMC</i> – Sacto Gay Men’s Chorus <i>UMW</i> = United Methodist Women [# = Circle)	1	2
3 <i>(See Sundays at FUMC)</i> Communion Sunday <i>High School SSP 7/3-7/9</i>	4 Independence Day—Church Office Closed	5 6:30 pm—FY Parents Mtg.	6 7 pm – NA 7 pm – IBS	7 5 pm – SAM Leadership <i>FUMC Camping trip 7/7-7/10</i>	8	9 1 pm – SAM Orientation
10 <i>(See Sundays at FUMC)</i> 8:30 am – Missions Committee <i>Jr. High SSP 7/10-7/15</i>	11	12 3 pm – SAM	13 6 pm – Leadership Team Meeting 7 pm – NA 7 pm - IBS	14 3 pm – SAM 5:30 - NFYW	15	16 1 pm - SAM
17 <i>(See Sundays at FUMC)</i> 7:30 pm – Imani Fellowship	18	19 3 pm – SAM 6:15 – FY Board Mtg. 7 pm - Trustees	20 7 pm – NA 7 pm - IBS Deadline for Visitor Submission	21 3 pm - SAM	22	23 10 am – Imani: Bag Lunches 10 am – Sanctuary Committee 1 pm - SAM
24 <i>(See Sundays at FUMC)</i> 8:30 am – Community Breakfast 3 pm – Imani Activities	25	26 3 pm – SAM	27 7 pm – NA 7 pm - IBS <i>Methodist Youth Conference 7/27-7/30</i>	28 3 pm – SAM 5:30 - NFYW	29	30 1 pm – SAM
31 <i>(See Sundays at FUMC)</i> 8:30 am – Community Breakfast						

First Church Hosts...

While **Pastor Don Lee** participated in numerous meetings and **Phil Dunzweiler, Bob Peck** and **Eileen Riesinger** represented FUMC at the annual Northern California-Nevada Conference of the United Methodist Church in June, there was plenty going on up the street at 21st and J Streets.

A number of breakfasts, lunches and dinners were held at First Church during the recent Annual Church Conference held in Sacramento at the Convention Center.

Bishop Brown held three events at FUMC just before and during conference. He met with clergy candidates for ordination, committee members, and with young clergy. A number of conference committees held lunches and dinners at First Church during the week, with more than 100 Methodist Women meeting on the last day for a very early breakfast. We also provided space to a church from another town to celebrate the ordination of their minister—a very special time in the life of this out-of-town church.

We give thanks for the fine work of our staff who kept the building spotless, made sure the program set-ups and equipment were organized, and helped greet people and get them to the correct meeting spaces. There was much hauling of furniture, setting-up, and serving of our fellow Methodist guests, all accomplished with a “can do” and positive attitude. **Johnny Morales, Billy Hernandez** and **Richard Pervorse** were very busy during the week, while also painting and repairing another area for our meeting use.

A “Big Bouquet of Roses” goes to the ladies of First Church who helped to set the tables for various events, and for preparing and serving the delicious food offered to our visitors. Special thanks to **Roberta Smith** and **Orene Duzweiler** who planned, organized, shopped for meal ingredients and spear-headed the meal production in our kitchen. Back breaking work accomplished with a smile and exceptional know-how.



Praying for Each Other

We remember our members...

Bonnie Churchill, Bill Faught, Jeanette Hite, BJ Hoyt, Jesse Martin, E.G. “Pom” Pomeroy, Tilda Redway, Molly Schaechtele, Larry Sidener, Marie Steppan, Jackie Thompson

And friends and family...

Nola Agha, daughter of Irene and Marvin Brown, and our Faith Community Nurse Patricia’s infant grandson, Liam.

FUMC PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain is a way to encourage and motivate personal prayer. It helps to bring prayer needs to mind through the days and weeks and to promote praise in worship for answered prayer. Praying for others brings unexpected rewards. All are welcome to be an important part of the FUMC Prayer Chain. For more information, please call Ilene Muller at 456-6373.

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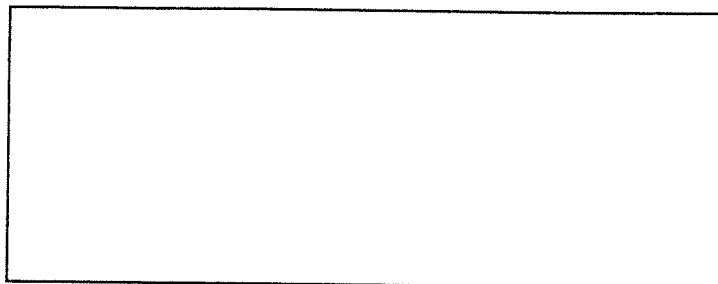
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PERIODICALS

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:

- **July 20**
- **August 24**
- **September 21**

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