



First United Methodist Church of Oroville

Vol. 22

March 2009

Rev. Donna VanMaanen
Rev. Chuckua Yang, Hmong Ministry
Shasta District Superintendent
Benoni Silva-Netto

Rev. Laura Heffernan
Bishop of Cal/Nevada Conference
Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr.

The Golden Feather



45 Acacia Ave
Oroville, CA 95966
Office & Fax: (530) 534-9455
Website: <http://www.1stunitedmethodist.org/>
Email: umc@1stunitedmethodist.org
Shasta District E-News: www.shastadistrictfumc.org



Office Hours

Pastor Donna is doing well after a scary week of heart tests and hospitalization. She is fine, just needs to get her blood pressure under control. Thank you to everyone for helping us through this time. You guys are wonderful. In light of all this, office hours are changing.

Pastor Donna's Office Hours

Monday 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Wednesday 10:00a.m.-4:00p.m.

Thursday 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Pastor Laura's Office Hours

Monday 9:30a.m. -12:30p.m.

Tuesday 9:30a.m.-2:30p.m.

Enduring Gifts Committee

John Fowler set up a new Money Market account to hold all the memorial gifts and designated giving to the church. This will keep it out of the General Fund and protect it from accidentally being spent on bills. It will also not be in the Trustees account, however it requires approval by the Enduring Gifts Committee and Council to spend. Both Enduring Gifts and Council include members from both Trustees, Finance, and Council. He has also set up a new

account for supporting Fundraisers. That fund will always be maintained to provide seed money for the next fundraiser. Thanks John for taking care of all the details.

Another plan that will take place in April is an Enduring Gifts Sunday. This will be an opportunity for all of you to look at various ways to set up your personal financial futures. We will wrap the worship service around Stewardship and then have an Enduring Gifts Training for the congregation after worship.



Lenten Studies on Wednesday Nights

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 25, we will have Lenten Studies for all ages. We will be studying "Three Simple Rules." Plan on coming for study and then fellowship and food at Dinner @ 6.

Nursery Update

We have new cabinets in the Nursery to hold all the toys. So, step one is happening.



The Kindergarten-1st Grade Sunday School class is moving to Room E, thus leaving the Nursery available for children 4 years old and younger. I have also heard a rumor that Marlys Circle is working on a special project around the Nursery.

Now all we need is workers. We need two adults in the Nursery each Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We can take turns so that nobody misses worship more than once a month. Teens may assist, but there must be two adults. Please let Pastor Laura know if you are willing to help in the Nursery.

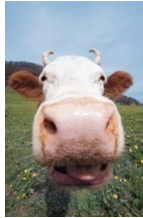
Children's Church

The children are studying the Seasons of the Christian Year. They are learning about the different colors that we use in worship and about what each season means. Currently, we are in purple for Lent.



We will also need Nursery workers on Wednesday nights during Lent from 4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The children can then go to dinner with their parents.

Heifer Project



The Sunday School has been collecting cans for several months to raise money for Heifer. The Upper Elementary class baked cookies and sold them after worship to make even more. This month, the children will be selecting the animals they want to buy to help others in need. **Good Work !**



The children of Children's Church will be working on School Kits for Sager-Brown. They need bags made and they will have fundraisers and school-supply Sundays to collect for the Kits. These kits will go to children who do not have school supplies to begin school. Thank you ahead of time for helping our children learn to work you can help making bags, Pastor Laura. pattern by UMCOR.



to give. If with please see We have a provided

Joys and Concerns

Prayers are needed for the following church family members: Don Pinney - recent bout with pneumonia; Pat Foster - had surgery & doing well; Peter Gibson-Hudson - doing a little better; Chuck & Beverly Bailey's son Christopher - had surgery on his leg, and their friend Dan Murphy - had surgery; Patty Blissenbach - upcoming surgery; Gladeen LeBeouf - hip surgery postponed & had a stent put in; Christl Yates - Serena (a student teacher friend) has a viral infection; Pastor Donna - had to have heart catheritization & back in church & feeling ok now; John Schmidt - prayers for Paul, Camp Shasta's resident volunteer, injured in an explosion & fire at his residence & also prayers of support are needed for Camp Shasta itself; Helen Beall's friends - Ray had triple bypass surgery & Sheila had heart catheritization; Elaine Klein - suffered food poisoning; Elaine Schmidt - recovering from a cold; and John Schmidt - suffered a hearing loss following flight home.

Those with ongoing concerns:

Kenneth Felice, Skip Shelton, Max Smith, Wright & Elaine Larkey, Theresa Abernathy, Tim Witzche, Por Yang, Kathleen Sharkey, Alice Pittman, Roy Stai, Sara Green, Spencer Bateman, Ann Boudrot, Darin Petty, John Brown, Tracy Hayes, Katie & John Voos,

Haley Warren, David Jacobsen, Ted Beall, Michael Grainger, Avinah Yang, Gwen Howard, Fugate Family, John Church, Mac McComas, Bobby Ludolf, Loraine Hiett, Ross & Wendi Ewalt, Bruce Barton, Lynn Barnett, Chris Barnes, Mary Ruth Heffernan, Betty Ball, Gail Leonard, and Virginia & Emery Field.

Keep the family of Cecelia Harris in your prayers, Cecelia recently passed away.

Church and Society

One way we can express our concern for our country, our world, etc. is by letting our U.S. Senators and Representatives know our views on upcoming legislation. Up until 9/11/2001 a hand-written letter was considered the best way to do that. Since that terrorist attack, which was followed by some anthrax/mail threats, it has evolved that the best way to communicate with these people is via e-mail. You can use postal mail if you choose. Just keep in mind that it can take up to three months for you letter to reach its destination because of the screening process.

Naturally a personal visit to your Senator or Representative's D.C. office is ideal; most of us are not likely to do that. Therefore electronic mail appears to be the best choice. The e-mail addresses of congressmen and women and federal agencies can be obtained at www.Congress.org. If you want to contact the President you can use

president@whitehouse.gov. The Vice President's e-mail address is vice.president@whitehouse.gov.

Which ever type of communication is used it is best to remember to include your full return address. Your message will be read probably by an intern or other staff person. If you use a P.O. Box, you should also include your physical address. Maybe the information you share is so valuable that you will be contacted personally or even asked to provide testimony at a hearing.

Margaret Brown

Outreach & Witness Committee

The outreach and witness work area has just been formed so we are in the process of reviewing our duties and how we can respond to the needs of our local community and beyond. The work area consists of Janet Short (chair), Margaret Brown (church & society), Sue Fredrickson (publicity), Elaine Klein (CCCO), Emily Fancher (mission coordinator) & Marlys Circle (food pantry). This work area also incorporates our apportionments. Margaret Brown will be providing us with more information on our apportionments in the future. If you have an outreach ministry that is of particular interest to you, please contact one of our committee members.

The outreach & witness work area is seeking outgoing & friendly individuals to be a part of our guest visitation team. This would involve a short visit

to our guests after they have worshiped with us. If you feel a calling to this ministry, please talk to one of the pastors.

Our food pantry has been assisting many families in need. Thank you to all who have so generously donated food!! With the current economic situation the need will certainly continue. The food pantry currently is in need of non perishables such as: canned meats, canned vegetables, powdered & canned milk, peanut butter, jam, pancake mix, syrup, pasta meals (such as spaghetti and sauce), soups & rice mixes. Thank you for keeping our pantry stocked to help serve the needs of our community.

HISTORY YOURS, MINE AND OURS

As Historian, and having put together several years worth of albums for the church, I decided one thing was missing: we had little to no information about our church members. After discussing this with our pastors and other people in the church, I started the process of interviewing individuals to learn a little about their personal histories and their association with FUMC Oroville. I will be talking to all of you eventually, but here is some information about Pastor Laura that should let you get to know her a little better.

LAURA HEFFERNAN

I was born in Mount Pleasant, TX and, for the most part was raised in San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Austin. My father worked for Gulf Oil and the requirements of his job demanded that we move about every three years between those towns.

I attended Texas Tech and then went on to the University of Houston for a Bachelor of Science degree in math. I was already working for Gulf Oil as a secretary in Houston. They had a "Sons and Daughters" program and encouraged families to work together at the company. After I received my degree, I became a Financial Programmer, and then a Financial Analyst.

In 1985, Standard Oil of California merged with Gulf Oil to become Chevron. At that time, I was transferred to Iowa as a Cost Analyst in a fertilizer plant. A year later I was transferred to California and worked in San Ramon and in San Francisco as a Systems Analyst.

I was about 29 years old when I felt called to the ministry. It was in Antioch, where I was attending church, that Pastor Paul Webb and his wife began to talk to me about their belief that I should pursue this.

I also talked to other women pastors at that time and felt that yes, I could and should follow this call.

During this time, although my position at Chevron was stable during a time when there were layoffs, my boss, who understood my leanings toward going into the ministry, talked to me about what I sincerely wanted to do with my life. I made the decision to leave the company and return to school to become a minister. He assisted me by assuring I received the largest severance pay possible.

I had felt, that if this was something I was meant to do, things in my life would fall into place, and they surely did. Besides the large severance, my home also sold during a tough housing market.

In the summer of 1993 I entered Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky where I met Donna, with whom I am now serving as pastor. It is amusing to note that we felt we had not one thing in common at that time. When my parents met Donna, they absolutely loved her, but my feelings were not the same! When the time came to choose roommates, Donna chose me for a roommate without asking me, not because she wanted to share with me in particular, but because she felt that I would at least leave her alone. Over the years we became true friends.

During our time at Asbury, Donna became very ill. Because she was unable to work, after I graduated,

she returned to California with me instead of returning to Iowa or the mission field. After graduation, I was appointed to Faith United Methodist Church in Sacramento where I served for nine years. During my time at Faith UMC, I brought Emily and Selena to live with me.

Since Emily and Selena had special needs caused by their mother's addictions during pregnancy, it meant that I could no longer be a full-time pastor. Donna then stepped in to help us so I could devote more time to their care. I went on Family Leave for several years.

It is just now here in Oroville that I am able to devote more time to the ministry I felt so called toward.

Dinner @ Six for March

March 4th – Lisa's Meat Loaf, garlic roasted potatoes, green beans, french bread, salad & dessert. Finance Committee is cooking.

March 11th –Lasagna, Salad, Bread & Dessert. Trustee Committee is cooking.

March 18th –Beef Taco Salad, Chicken Tortilla Soup, Warm Tortillas , Chips & Dessert. Worship Committee is cooking.

March 25th –Pastor Chuckua and the Hmong Congregation are cooking.

March Worship

March 1st

Greeters: Ann Reavis & Linda Perry
Coffee Hour: Emily & Richard Fancher
Liturgist: Rev. Laura Heffernan
Lockup: Sem Vang

March 8th

Greeters: Emily & Richard Fancher
Coffee Hour: Barbara Thompson & Helen Beall
Liturgist: Pat Foster
Lockup: Richard Fancher

March 15th

Greeters: Helen Beall & Joan Keller
Coffee Hour: Doris & Denny Ludolph
Liturgist: Pat Foster
Lockup: Susan Sharon

March 22nd

Greeters: Gerry & Darby Miller
Coffee Hour: Carol Anderson & Suzanne Love
Liturgist: Mong Vang
Lockup: Kyle Buis

March 29th

Greeters: Emily & Richard Fancher
Coffee Hour: Emily & Richard Fancher
Liturgist: Mong Vang
Lockup: Stu Shaner

Staff Parrish

Please join the Staff Parrish Committee in welcoming Tyler Yang as our new Custodian. Tyler is very happy to be a member of the staff at FUMC and is looking forward to meeting each of you. When you see him working around the church please welcome him. His hours are Monday & Thursday--7:30 am to 3:30 pm and Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Church Directory

It is time for us to have a new Church Directory. Olan Mills will be here on Saturday, March 14, 2009 and Sunday March 15, 2009 to take our pictures. Ginger Ewalt is chairperson for this project and she may be contacting people to assist her, if you are asked please volunteer to help her. You will get a call to sign up for a time slot for your pictures.

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Team would like to thank everyone that helped us make the Gourmet Dinner & Auction a success!

Cynthia Slattery
Georgia Nelson
Randy Fowler

The Stewardship Team is putting on a St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 14, 2009. We really would appreciate the congregation's support in selling tickets for this fundraiser. This is our last fundraiser until the Mother's Day Brunch.

Cynthia Slattery
Georgia Nelson
Randy Fowler

March

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri.	Sat
1 Sunday Service Schedule	2 5:30 pm Trustee's	3 11:00 am Worship	4 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 1:30 pm Bible RT 6:00 pm Dinner @ Six 6:45 pm Choir Practic	5 7:30 am Bible Study @ Cassidy's 10:00 – 2:00 Family Solutions in Fireside Room 4:00 pm Community Prayer	6 5:30 pm Sonwalkers Youth Group Hmong Ladies Choir Practice	7 Set clocks ahead
8 Sunday Service Schedule Daylight Savings Begins	9 5:30 pm Staff Parrish Committee	10	11 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 1:30 pm Bible RT 6:00 pm Dinner @ Six 6:45 pm Choir Practic	12 7:30 am Bible Study @ Cassidy's 10:00 – 2:00 Family Solutions in Fireside Room 4:00 pm Community Prayer	13 5:30 pm Sonwalkers Youth Group Hmong Ladies Choir Practice	14 Corn Beef Cabbage Dinner 6:00 p.m. <i>Olan Mills</i> <i>Pictures</i>
15 Sunday Service Schedule <i>Olan Mills</i> <i>Pictures</i>	16 5:30 pm Finance	17 12:00 C.C.C.O.	18 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 1:30 pm Bible RT 6:00 pm Dinner @ Six 6:45 pm Choir Practic	19 7:30 am Bible Study @ Cassidy's 10:00 – 2:00 Family Solutions in Fireside Room 4:00 pm Community Prayer	20 5:30 pm Sonwalkers Youth Group Hmong Ladies Choir Practice	21 10:00 am Work Day @ Church
22 Sunday Service Schedule	23 7:00 pm Marlys Circle	24 6:00 pm Church Council	25 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 1:30 pm Bible RT 6:00 pm Dinner @ Six 6:45 pm Choir Practic	26 7:30 am Bible Study @ Cassidy's 10:00 – 2:00 Family Solutions in Fireside Room 4:00 pm Community Prayer	27 5:30 pm Sonwalkers Youth Group Hmong Ladies Choir Practice	28
29 Sunday Service Schedule	30	31				

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Oroville

Celebrating Over 150 Years Serving The Oroville Community

Sunday Service Schedule

Adult's & Children's Sunday School	8:45 a.m.
Hmong Service	8:45 a.m.
Children's Bells	10:00 a.m.
Hmong Adult's & Youth Sunday School	10:10 a.m.
English Service	10:30 a.m.
Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class	12:30 p.m.

Wednesday Schedule

Bible Study & Breakfast @ Hofbrau	8:00 a.m.
Bible Round Table & Prayer	1:30 p.m.
Dinner @ Six each Wed. Sept. to May	6:00 p.m.

Thursday Schedule

Bible Study & Breakfast @ Cassidy's	7:30 a.m.
Community Prayer Service	4:20 p.m.-5:20 p.m.

Friday Schedule

Sonwalkers Youth Group Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Hmong Ladies Choir Practice	5:30 p.m.

Our mission is to know Christ and make Christ known: to nurture our relationship with God and our commitment to Jesus Christ, to invite others into the community of faith, to equip, send and support Christians for daily witness and service.