

The Messenger

Eureka First UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 2016



First United Methodist Church
520 Del Norte
Eureka, CA 95501

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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From Pastor Kathryn...

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Jeremiah 1:5

Dear Ones,

Have you ever felt that God was calling you to do something? It is not just pastors and religious professionals who are called by God. Indeed, I believe God calls all of us in many and varied ways, to everyday actions, to acts of kindness, to service to our families and communities and ourselves, to rest and recreation, to life time commitments and vocations. Though some may "hear" God speak, as the prophets in our scriptures so long ago recorded, how we sense God's call is probably as varied as there are people. One way I have a pretty good idea that God is calling me to do something is when I can't get something out of my mind, no matter how much I may try to "reason" it away. Sometimes a call is experienced as a nudge, or a "what if?" or in a dream that particularly catches our attention.

Many times we resist those nudges, those senses that someone or something beyond us is inviting us to do something. When Jeremiah was called by God to be a prophet, God told him that God had known him and called him even from before he was born. Can you, can I, accept that God has known us longer than we have known ourselves? And when we have a sense that God is nudging us, sending us, calling us to do something that goes beyond our comfort level or the abilities we think we have, that God will be with us? Jeremiah felt inadequate to the task God called him to, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." (Jeremiah 1:6) But God assured him, "Do not be afraid...for I am with you..." (Jeremiah 1:7)

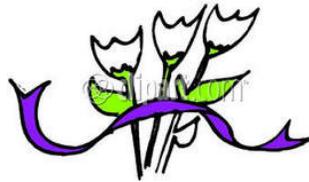
God will indeed be with us always. Oh, that we might always be able to rest in that assurance!

In Love,
Pastor Kathryn

What's So Amazing About Grace?

Pastor Kathryn is currently leading a study based on Philip Yancy's book, *What's So Amazing About Grace?* From the back of Yancy's book: "We speak of grace often. But do we understand it? More importantly, do we truly believe in it...and do our lives proclaim it as powerfully as our words?" The concept of Grace, God's unconditional love, is central to Christianity, but as Yancey states in his book, it is not fully understood by many Christians. The study uses a DVD presentation with the author speaking and a Participant's Guide. The study is offered on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM and continues through Lent, ending on March 22 and 23. All interested persons are invited to drop in and experience this group.

LENT



Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 10 this year) and ending on the day before Easter (Easter is March 27 in 2016). *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word, *lencten*, which means "spring." The season of Lent is a

preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, it began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Some Christians choose to give up something during Lent as a way of fasting and allowing for more time or resources for contemplation or service. All Christians are invited to a Holy Lent of intentional prayer, study and worship.

Lent at Eureka First

There are several ways that Eureka First United Methodist Church marks the season of Lent. First is the dinner and service on Ash Wednesday, February 10 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Eureka First UMC has had a tradition of combining "Mardi Gras" and the beginning of Lent. Traditionally "Mardi Gras" (Fat Tuesday) is a day of feasting before the fast of Lent. Christians celebrating Mardi Gras the day before Ash Wednesday were encouraged to cook up all the fat, sugar and meat in their homes in preparation for the six weeks of Lenten fasting. Our "Mardi Gras" dinner this year will be a taco bar. Our Ash Wednesday service, which will follow the time of "feasting" on a Mexican dinner and the fun of musical entertainment, is a brief service which will include the "imposition" of ashes as a way of reminding us of our mortality. This service will take place from 7:00 to 7:30 PM on Wednesday, February 10.

Ecumenical Lenten Soup Suppers

During the Lenten season several churches in Eureka rotate offering a simple soup dinner followed by a short worship service. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. dinner, followed by a half-hour worship. Our church will host this event on Wednesday, February 24th. If you are able to provide soup or

bread for the evening, please let the office know. Following is the complete schedule of this year's Lenten Soup Suppers – we hope to see many of you participating in the one we host, and making the rounds to our neighboring churches.

Feb. 17th United Congregational Christian Church
 Feb. 24th First United Methodist Church
 March 2nd Calvary Lutheran Church
 March 9th First Presbyterian Church
 March 16th Center for Spiritual Living

New Church Member and Baptism Orientation

Are you interested in finding out what it means to be a member of the United Methodist Church? Do you want to learn more about baptism? Pastor Kathryn will lead an orientation meeting for those interested in church membership and/or baptism on Saturday, February 13th from 9:00 am to noon. Please let the church office know if you would like to be a part of this orientation.

Chili Cookoff a Success



The Chili Cookoff was a great event, with 12 delicious submissions from our talented chefs. Everyone had a great time tasting the samples and then chowing down on the dish of their

choice. We also had bonus submissions of delicious cornbread of several different styles. We were even able to donate our entire “backup batch” of chili to Betty Chin for her ministry!

The Cookoff raised \$602 for the Renew Our Kitchen project—but even more important, it showed what a valuable part of our ministry and fellowship the kitchen can be! Thanks to one and all—all the chefs, bakers, and helpers who pitched in to make the cleanup work a snap!

The Endowment Fund

The Eureka United Methodist Church Endowment Fund has approximately \$9,000 to expend in 2016 for Church projects, missions and objectives that you would like to achieve in 2016. The endowment committee is accepting requests for allocation of these funds for Church projects that are important to you. Requests need to be submitted to the Church Office or Endowment Committee members (Marie Grenshaw, Ralph Davis, or Bill O'Brien-Chair) before the February 28th, 2016, deadline to be considered for funding.

The Endowment Fund may only be used for purposes consistent with the mission of the Church, such as the following;

1. Needs of local church
2. Maintenance
3. Improvements of space or facilities
4. Programs or staff expansion for the benefit of children, youth, or adult ministries
5. Music Program
6. Scholarships

Lost and Found

Are you missing something you may have left at the church? There is a blue plastic box in the hall outside the kitchen marked “Lost and Found.” Items left in the church without a name on them will be put in that box and disposed of after a month if not claimed.

Financial Summary

December 2015

General Fund Revenue: \$22,000.65
 General Fund Expense: \$15,612.66

2015 Year-to-date

2015 General Fund Revenue: \$192,958.71
 2015 General Fund Expense: \$190,190.98
 +\$2,767.73

Thank you for your generous giving to God through the church.

JANUARY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

JAN 3 RD	8:30 – 31;	10:00 – 73	TOTAL – 104
JAN 10 TH	8:30 – 41;	10:00 – 85	TOTAL – 131
JAN 17 TH	8:30 – 28;	10:00 – 65	TOTAL – 93
JAN 24 TH	8:30 – 30;	10:00 – 65	TOTAL – 95
JAN 31 ST	9:30 – 92		



February Birthdays

2 Gerhard Drumm	13 Nia Davies-Hughes
3 Janice La Flesh	14 Anisha Mae Rechelluul
6 Sally Moulton	14 Valerie Samelson
6 Casey Taylor	15 Claire Olmstead
6 Katie Peacock	18 Wayne Palmrose
8 Cheryl Sanford	19 Gary Quintrell
11 Chad Rechelluul	24 Tori Reynolds
26 Carolyn Johnson	

and anniversaries....

12 Lisa & Brett McAllister
 29 Bob & Lori Green

Congratulations! -- If we missed your special day or have the incorrect date please call the church office so we can get it right next year.

Sunday February 14th

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

In Fellowship Hall

Everyone's welcome!

Free will offering (\$4 suggested donation) to cover expenses

Hey—it's Valentine's Day this year! No better way to start off than a romantic breakfast at the church!

Women's Book Club –



Tuesday February 16 at 3 p.m. in the Library. The book for February is “Backpacking with the Saints” by Belden C. Lane. Call the church office if you would like more information.



Church Family News

We rejoice in the birth of Naomi Anadine Dunning on January 22, 2016 to Shawn and Lindsey Dunning. Proud grandparents are Pastor Kathryn and Rob Dunning.

Jim Warren, husband of Sharon, passed into eternal peace on Saturday, January 30. Please hold Sharon and their children Craig and Wendy in your prayers. A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 20 at 11:00 AM in our sanctuary.

Please hold the following persons in prayer for health concerns:

- Helen Buck who is under Hospice Care at Timber Ridge in Eureka.
- Pat and Art Lewis
- Bert and Joyce Reid
- Carolyn Johnson
- Rodney Van Der Sluis who is at Seaview Rehabilitation Center
- Sally Hansen who is recovering from surgery
- Bev Strubinger recovering from a broken arm
- Ginny Hedgecock recovering from a broken foot

Rev. Newell Knudson died on Wednesday, January 27, 2016. Rev. Knudson served Eureka First United Methodist Church from 1972 to 1980, and retired in 1989. Condolences may be sent to his wife, Eleanor Knudson, 9525 N. Fort Washington Road, #103W, Fresno California 93730. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 13 at 11:00 AM at the Memorial UMC in Clovis, CA.

In January we said good-bye to Bruce and Jeannette Thulien as they moved from Eureka to their new home in Scottsdale, Arizona. We will publish their new address when we have it.

It's good to have the Drumms here for a while!



Sally Pierce hanging out with the boys, and some nice extra attendance up front during Children's Time!



A letter from Qwincy

Dear Church Family,
I would like to thank all the folks for their help and support in getting me moved into my new apartment. So many helped with either moving in or donating items I needed in my new place. Here are a few that come to mind; Pastor Kathryn, Herb Pierce, Dan Dionne, John & Sara Lundstrom, Carrol Newquist, Joan Brady, Pam Coen, and Heidi Benzonelli. Thank you to all, it is much appreciated. Qwincy

MUSIC AT EUREKA FIRST

Praise Band

Would you like to sing or play an instrument with the worship team? Join us for rehearsals on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

Handbells

We rehearse at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays in the Christie Hall, Room 10. If you have questions or would like to participate, call Linda Dionne, director, at 497-6554. We'd love to see you!

Church Officers for 2016

At our Annual Church Conference in November the following persons were elected to serve Eureka First United Methodist Church in 2016 and were installed in worship in January. Thank you to all who will serve in a variety of capacities to facilitate the ongoing life and ministries of our church!

CHURCH COUNCIL- Chairperson: Michael Davies-Hughes, **Vice Chairperson:** Barb O'Brien, **Secretary:** Catherine Moore, **Lay Leader:** Sally and Herb Pierce, **Finance Chair:** Marge Custis, **Staff-Parish Relations Chair:** Dan Dionne, **Trustee Chair:** Wayne Palmrose, **Treasurer:** Jane Nelson, **Financial Secretary:** Karen Newton, **Endowment Committee Chair:** Bill O'Brien, **Annual Conference Lay Members:** Dan and Linda Dionne, **Alternate AC Lay Members:** Herb and Sally Pierce, **Members at Large:** Jill Kimura, Gail Johnson, Nancy Quintrell, Sean Woodburn, Neal and Sharon Sligh.

COMMISSIONS – Missions: Louise Frederickson & Sharon Warren, **Worship:** Ted Flanders, **Altar Guild:** Kris Flanders, **Kitchen:** Ted, Kris and TODD Flanders, **Coffee Hour Coordinator:** Margie O'Keefe

TRUSTEES- Wayne Palmrose, Lynne Intersimone, Rich Strubinger, Rob Dunning, Judy Taylor, Angela Cameron, Brian Hansen, Barbara O'Brien, Gary Quintrell

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE -

Marge Custis, Bob Lorensen, Ken Stumpf, Carol Goodwyn, Carol Miller, Brad Mettam, Dan Dionne, Michael Bresnahan, Margaret Stumpf, **Lay Leader:** Sally Pierce, **Lay Member to AC:** Dan Dionne

COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP - Carol Goodwyn, John Lundstrom, Herb Pierce, Judy Taylor, Michele Woodburn, Dan Dionne, Sally Hansen, Lori Green, Joann Brekke, **Lay Leader:** Sally Pierce, Pastor Kathryn Dunning (chair)

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE - Bill O'Brien, Marie Granshaw, Ralph Davis. Endowment Committee also includes chair of Church Council, Finance Committee, Board of Trustees, Finance Secretary, Treasurer, Pastor, Lay Leader.

OTHER OFFICERS - Treasurer, Memorial Funds: Minerva French, **Communion Stewards:** Kris Flanders, Gail Johnson, **Church Historian:** Jeremiah Forman, **Chairperson, Auditing Committee:** Greg Goodwyn, **Counting Committee:** Joanne Brekke, Catherine Moore, Karen Newton, Mary Scott, Gary Quintrell, Judy Taylor, Carol Goodwyn, Sally Pierce

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Marge Custis, Gary Quintrell, Ralph Davis,

The finance committee also includes the pastor, a lay member to the Annual Conference, Chairperson of the Church Council, a representative from SPRC, a representative from the Board of Trustees, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Office Manager, Lay Leaders and the chairperson of the Endowment Committee.

CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND - Bob Lorensen, Marlaine Rechelluul, Joan Brady, Joann Brekke, Pastor

Missions

Summary of 2015 Mission Giving

In addition to generously supporting the ongoing ministry of this church with gifts and offerings to cover the costs of music, worship, education, other programming, salaries, insurance, utilities, building maintenance, Tithe to our Annual Conference, District Askings and to Renew our Kitchen members and friends of this congregation have given of their time, talents, money and other resources to reach out to many in need in this community and beyond. Following is a summary of over \$35,000 dollars that have passed through our church in 2015 in the form of "second mile" gifts on their way to help meet a variety of needs:

- Work of the Drumm family in Southeast Asia: \$12,175
- AMOR (Mexico House Building Mission) \$8,097.37
- Disaster Relief Team (Rebuilding after fire in Weed, California) \$3,934.74
- Imagine No Malaria \$3,711
- UMCOR for California Fires \$2,840
- UMCOR for Nepal \$1,000
- UMCOR Syria \$100
- Other UMCOR disaster relief \$460
- Betty Chinn (Showers) \$360.67
- United Methodist Churchwide Special Sunday Offerings
 - o One Great Hour of Sharing (Supports UMCOR) \$520
 - o Human Relations Day Offering \$305
 - o World Communion Sunday \$235
 - o Peace With Justice Sunday \$225
 - o Native American Sunday \$115.50
 - o United Methodist Student Day \$105
- Montague United Methodist Church Building Project \$250
- Alice Birney School \$160
- Eureka Rescue Mission \$160
- From Advent Tea Offering:
 - o The Forgotten Initiative (Foster Care Support) \$1,128
 - o Rescue Mission Women's Shelter \$1,128

Planning for Mexico

Each year for the past several years Eureka First UMC has sent a team across the border in Mexico to build a house in conjunction with *AMOR Ministries*. Our trip this year is scheduled for April 9-16, 2016 to coincide with the Eureka City Schools spring break. We will drive down, camp in a secure area and build a simple house for a family in the Tijuana or Tecate area. One of the unique things about this ministry opportunity is that persons of all ages can participate. Families are encouraged to come, and youth over age 15 can be a part of the team even if their families are not able to participate. To date 12 persons have indicated their commitment to be a part of this year's team and several others are considering it. If you are thinking about going or would like more information about the trip, please contact Pastor Kathryn or the church office.

Banana Hut Fundraiser

Congratulations to all of you who took in your Sunday Bulletins and ate at the Banana Hut last year. Eureka First UMC was the winner for the period of July to December. We received an extra \$100 on top of the 10% we normally receive. Keep up the delicious work!!

LOOK WHAT OUR TALENTED KNITTERS HAVE DONE!

The knitting group completed over 40 hats, six toddler sweaters, five infant sweaters and two pairs of socks. They will be distributed to afghans for Afghans, World



Vision and Caps for kids. A big thank you to Diane Mettam who has been graciously knitting the sweaters that Elizabeth once did and to Paula for all the crocheted hats. There is a mystery knitter too but I think I

might know who it is. Blessings to all of you. Marie Granshaw

Women's Shelter Dinner Opportunity!

From Marie Grenshaw: I would like to continue our service to the women's shelter. If you would like to help in any way please contact me at 444-9150. It will be hard to follow in Sharon's footsteps but I am feeling called and trust that the Lord will guide us.



Donations for Boots!

Joan Brady is asking for donations for rubber boots for children. The children's rain boots are \$18.12 per pair including tax.

Food Donations for January: 89 pounds!

Food placed in the basket in the narthex is distributed to the Food Bank, the Rescue Mission or kept in the church office for people who fall between the cracks of services available.

Food is weighed by our children on the first Sunday of each month.

Food Donations will be weighed on Sunday February 1.



DRUMM STICK SUNDAY 2/21

As their home church we continue to raise funds for the Drumm Family who are serving Christ in South Asia. One Sunday a month we sell DRUMM STICKS (ice cream cones) -- \$2 each. So, treat yourself to ice cream occasionally and support this exciting project!



Submissions to the Messenger



If you have anything you would like included in the Messenger, please send submissions directly to your friendly editor, Dan Dionne, at dldionne@suddenlink.net. And not just contributions! If you have any suggestions for how we can make the Messenger serve our church better, we want to hear them!