



ST. PAUL'S COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 40/50 SCHOOL ST., POINT ARENA, CA 95468
 APRIL/MAY 2010 www.spcumc.org



Upcoming Concert in May



Invite your friends and neighbors
 Save the Date and spread the
 word of invitation

Saturday May 22th, 2 p.m.
The Coastal Singers in Concert

Gualala Arts Center, Gualala
 off of Old Stage Road

MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE- UMCOR OneGreat Hour of Sharing *Our Easter Sunday* 2nd mile 'Special Gift'. Be There. Be Hope.

St. Paul's Community U Methodist congregation joins United Methodists worldwide by making a special offering during April to **One Great Hour of Sharing** OGHS. Together we support humanitarian aid through UMCOR- the United Methodist Committee on Relief. You can be assured that when catastrophes occur /cause suffering, the United Methodist Church, impelled by Jesus' love and compassion will be in the lead, easing the pain and offering hope with open hearts and minds to all people.

Cont'd pg. 2



Palm Sunday March 28, 2010

10:30 a.m. Our church children and our traditional
 'Procession of the Palms.'

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Maundy Thursday Last Supper Communion
 6-7:15 p.m. at Mary Star of the Sea, Gualala

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Good Friday Service & Soup Luncheon:

Begin at St. Aloysius Church **12 noon**,
 then walk to St. Paul's Church for Soup & Bread.

Good Friday Evening Tenebrae

7- 8:15 p.m. at St. Paul's sanctuary.

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Holy Saturday Day of Prayer

You are invited to come to prepare the Sanctuary
 and to offer your acts of prayer for God's
 amazing grace and hope

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Easter Morning Worship Celebration

10:30 a.m.



Bring fresh and potted flowers

Plan to enjoy a time of musical praise,
 drama and fellowship.

Arrive early, stay for the egg hunt and
 the Annual 'St. Paul's UMC Easter Portrait'

Celebrate the Risen Christ!

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The Sunday after Easter



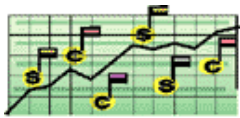
Easter Music Sunday and 4th Annual Art Show

A Celebration of Resurrection & Creativity with the
 Ernest Bloch Handbells and other musical guests
 including Karl Young and Eric Kritz, Davina Rose and
 Elise Allen with Sita Milchev, Bill B and Mimi Dallas.

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Share your creative handiwork: visual and fabric art,
 wood, metal and other medium artwork, creative
 writing and songwriting, photography, sculpting,
 ceramics & pottery. **Invite others to join in!**

FINANCE MATTERS – March 2010



St. Paul's Monthly Financial Summary
as of March 31, 2010

This Year Last Year
(2010) (2009)

Money Received Year to Date	18,330	15,073
Budgeted Receipts Year to Date	19,755	17,972
Excess/(Under) Year to Date	(1,425)	(2,899)
Operational Expenses Year to Date	22,248	22,778
Budgeted Operational Expenses	21,651	23,702
Savings/(Over) Year to Date	(597)	924
Net at 3/31/10	(2,022)	(1,975)
Budgeted Loss	(4,645)	(15,604)

April showers . . .

As I drive along the coast I see the stormy clouds billowing over the hills and taste the rain coming in before the wind. I love this time of year, because it is full of rainbows. When the skies are stormy and turbulent, and the wind does not know if it is coming or going, that is when the miracles happen . . . and God's reminder of grace and protection arches over us.

Last Sunday your Ad Council decided to start a Rainy Day Fund. This fund will help to see us through the times when our cash flow has no "flow" in it. As you can see from the chart above, we are approaching a pretty tight spot right at the moment, having just paid some rather large bills last month. We also amended our budget to add another \$2,110 to Pastor Tina's salary so her status can remain at full-time, where she is needed. We will need to gather these funds in from amongst ourselves – please give it prayerful discernment.

If you help make the rainbow for us, mark your check "Rainy Day Fund." It will go into a separate account so we can measure how much of a buffer we have against the storms that do come from time to time. Should you choose to help in this way, please do not do so by reducing your regular pledge – we need those funds for our general operating expenses day to day. Thank you for your faithfulness – and the flowers that grow from it!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



* APRIL 4, 2010 *

UMCOR • ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

BE THERE. BE HOPE.

"Building a Stronger Community of Faith
through Education, Evangelism and Prayer"



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Our Easter Offering * APRIL 4, 2010

We deeply appreciate the outstanding work that (UMCOR) United Methodist Committee On Relief is doing in Chile, Haiti, and other areas of crisis met with recent disasters in 2010.

This Easter Sunday YOU will have an opportunity to help UMCOR do its job!

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is the reason we are able to promise that 100 percent of every gift donation to UMCOR crisis work goes to the specific designated country and need. **Our offering provides** the administrative funding undergirding the mission arm of our church. Normally taken one Sunday each year during Lent, we will gather the OGHS offering on **Easter Sunday** and the **(2) Sundays following Easter**. Please be generous.

If each of us gave a gift of \$5 per person to OGHS, imagine what our congregation might offer in support! Those who can offer *beyond* that basic amount are urged to take that larger step.

It will mean that UMCOR can be vitally solid, administratively supported, and therefore continue the pledge and promise that 100% of gifts designated for our world and national neighbors in crisis **will be** sent to the need! We can share in that promise with joy and confidence because we all helped it to be so!

If you write a check make it out to:

St. Paul's Community UMC

Please put 'OGHS' in the memo line. Envelopes will be available the next 2 Sundays. THANK YOU ALL!

Opportunities for Worship & Prayer

Sundays: Fellowship at 10 and 11:45 a.m.

Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.:

E-mail and Telephone Prayer Chains

Become a link by calling 884-3607 or write to ellenbuechner@hotmail.com.

You will be included in this important ministry! As you lift others in prayer and presence, you will find blessings, too.

APRIL Worship Leaders

April 4 - George Campbell

April 11 - Frances Buentjen

April 18 - Liz Elstun

April 25 - Mimi Dallas



Thank you

Thank you, **Millie Davis** and **Carol Hofer**, for your ongoing welcoming and faithful work coordinating each month's scheduling of Worship leaders and Worship hosts as well as reminding us when our days of serving are approaching.

Another 'Thank you' goes for all those serving as leaders and hosts and **Jim, Kathi & Bill** for their computer skills and gifts enabling our media at our worship each week. 'Thank You', for that special welcoming St. Paul's hospitality in Jesus' name as we gather to give God our praise and faithful selves. Thank you, Francie, Janet and Ellen for your drama and musical offering on Easter Sunday!

Thank you, **Ken, Bill, Mimi** and our **April 11th guest musicians**, and to **Sieg Buentjen** for his thought-full floral creations at our weekly worship celebrations.

Nothing happens without inviting, careful planning and attention to details, our intentional welcoming and regular presence, surrounded by prayer and dedication. We are indeed blessed!

APRIL Birthdays

4/1 Sharon Baylis

4/3 Frances Buentjen

4/11 Susie McCombs

4/14 Kasey Hofer

4/21 Josh Riboli

4/22 Brandan Vess

4/30 Shayla Hay



Easter Flower Cross

Our traditional Easter Sunday Flower Cross needs *your* participation and *your* plant and flower resources on Easter weekend. **Can you help** prepare our Sanctuary with a colorful gift from your garden? Please bring potted plants (lilies, daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, geraniums) cut flowers and greenery on Holy Saturday when we prepare our Sanctuary.

On Sunday morning 'fresh cut from your garden' flowers are welcome. Arrive early to help place them.

Remember to come early for a place to park and time to enjoy fellowship with others.

Connectional Staff of Golden Gate District

Superintendent Ben Silva-Netto

Administrative Assistant, Bruce Pettit

415-504-7200

e-mail: ggdist@aol.com

website: www.goldenmuc.org

California Nevada Conference

Bishop Warner Brown,

bishop@calnevumc.org

Phone: 916-374-1510

'CAN' YOU HELP?

Food Pantry Supplies & Handyfolks Tasks

Canned meat: tuna, chicken, spam Chili, Baked beans, Soups(all varieties), Beef stew, Juice packs, Dried fruit, Nuts, Olives, Pickles, Raisins, Dry cereals (no-cook), Rice milk or Soy milk, Granola bars, Power/Health bars, Bottled water (for easy toting).

Pop tops and easy open are a big help, too!

Note: Dog & Cat food, if you have some to give away is welcome in Gallon sized ziplock bags as well as laundry detergent. ~ P. Tina

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFE-LONG LEARNING

“STOLEN CHILDHOODS”
SATURDAY May 8 at 11:00 a.m.



Narrated by Meryl Streep, **STOLEN CHILDHOODS** is a documentary feature film about the growing plague of child labor that engulfs the lives of 246 million children today. In extraordinary footage of their working conditions, child slaves, bonded laborers and laboring poor children from eight countries (including the US) tell their own stories . . . All these children tell their stories in their own words.

STOLEN CHILDHOODS features interviews with 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Wangari Maathai, human rights activist, Kailash Satyarthi, and Senator Tom Harkin.

At a time of increasing global insecurity, **STOLEN CHILDHOODS** reveals the risks of the world community continuing to waste these children’s lives. It portrays local, national and international solutions at work to end child labor, offering a humanitarian path to a more stable world.

The video gives voice to children still lost to work *and* it celebrates the resilience of kids whose lives have been saved.

It is a shocking, hopeful and energizing film and a call to action.

“Building a Stronger Community of Faith
through Education, Evangelism and Prayer”

Children at
St. Paul’s



The children will help us observe Earth Day and offer hope, respect and prayers for GOD’s gift of creation. Join us for KID’S NIGHT OUT! Friday APRIL 16th from 5:15 -7:15 p.m. For ages 4-12 . Parents are ALWAYS welcome

Spring Youth/Adult Study Groups Begin

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Sunday April 18th at 9:09 a.m.w/ Pastor Tina in Biaggi Hall

Watch and Listen for details on Jim’s Gualala Study Group’s ‘Next topic’

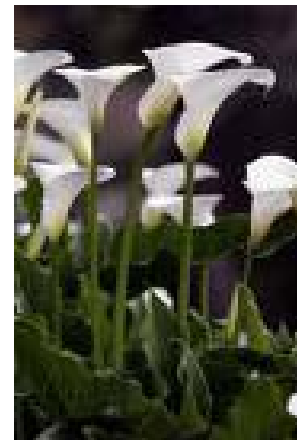
That’s Good Stewardship! Letters Lately

from McCurdy School, NM

School through the Campbells/ Swanson’s label bar codes and Box Tops for Education program. Yes, we save only the bar code now, sometimes not so easy a task to remove and save, but life giving for us!

God Bless You All ~for making the time and **saving instead of tossing**’ these valuable little bits of paper. Visit our website to see the lives transformed by love and education. www.mccurdy.org

~ Ella Martinez



Thank you all for your faithful support of **McCurdy**

Our statement of ministry and mission:
"Building a Stronger Community of Faith"
through Prayer, Education and Evangelism.

"As a spiritual community, we strive to discover the resources needed for our work in the world. Believing in the inherent worth of all people at all ages and stages; encouraging justice and peace among all people; bringing hope and deeper relationship and extending love to all those in need, we embrace our journey through the empowering resources of education, prayer and evangelism -for ourselves and those beyond our walls.

NEW 'STONE SOUP SATURDAY' FLAVOR ADDED



Starting on April 17th, we will feature a woodcarving activity. This will be a great opportunity if you, or someone you know, would like to learn to carve wood. We will provide tools, wood and instruction that will allow you to explore this craft while meeting some new friends and neighbors. All ages are invited.

If you have done some woodcarving previously, please join us for a stimulating hands-on group experience. For those not interested in woodcarving, we will continue to have our normal activities of art, music and mission projects.

Jim Tackett will be coordinating this activity. Jim is a member of the Sonoma County Woodcarvers and has taught a beginning woodcarving course at the Gualala Arts Center. He was the curator for the last three "Wood Creations" exhibits at Gualala Arts. Resource material will include books, magazines, web-sites and DVD's.

Stone Soup is an old fairy tale in which strangers trick a starving town into giving them some food. It is usually told as a lesson in cooperation, especially amid scarcity. In varying traditions, the stone has been replaced with other common inedible objects, and therefore the fable is also known as button soup, wood soup, nail soup, and axe soup.

According to the story, some travelers come to a village, carrying nothing more than an empty pot. Upon their arrival, the villagers are unwilling to share any of their food stores with the hungry travelers. The travelers fill the pot with water, drop a large stone in it, and place it over a fire in the village square. One of the villagers becomes curious and asks what they are doing. The travelers answer that they are making "stone soup", which tastes wonderful, although it still needs a little bit of garnish to improve the flavor, which they are missing.

The villager doesn't mind parting with just a little bit of flour to help them out, so it gets added to the soup. Another villager walks by, inquiring about the pot, and the travelers again mention their stone soup which hasn't reached its full potential yet. The villager hands them a little bit of seasoning to help them out. More and more villagers walk by, each adding another ingredient. Finally, a delicious and nourishing pot of soup is enjoyed by all.

We wanted to establish a Saturday social activity for those who normally participate in one of the week-day Senior Center lunch and discussion opportunities. Although we wanted to serve soup, we chose the "Stone Soup" name because of the "sharing" concept that it expresses.

The "discussion opportunity" is not a formalized thing. It is simply the friendly discussion that normally occurs when people gather around a meal or common task. The subject depends on those who are present.

I hope that the woodcarving might develop into something like the "Quilting Bees" that were popular many years ago. We will continue our normal Stone Soup activities. Woodcarving will be optional for those who attend. Other Good Ideas and leadership is welcome to add to Stone Soup's distinct flavor, anticipation, and joy! ~ Jim Tackett

What is Shingles

shingles is a very common virus. Fifty percent of all Americans will have had shingles by the time they are 80. While shingles occurs in people of all ages, it is most common in 60- to 80-year-olds.

The leading risk factor for shingles is a history of having had chickenpox. One out of every five people who have had chickenpox is likely to get shingles. Some have suggested that stress may be a cause, but stress, by itself, does not *cause* shingles outbreaks. However, many shingles patients report they have recently had a stressful event in their lives that opens the door to a weakened immune system.

The first symptoms of shingles usually include burning, itching, or tingling sensations on the back, chest, or around the rib cage or waist. In other cases, it can be the face or eye area that is involved. The affected area can become extremely painful. This is when most people go to the doctor to find out what is causing the pain. In two or three days, a telltale rash develops in a single area on one side of the body. The rash erupts into small blisters. Some people get the pain but never develop the rash. These cases are much more difficult to diagnose and can be mistaken for other diseases.

Caused by a germ called *varicella-zoster* virus — the one that gave you chickenpox when you were a child the Shingles virus remained as you recovered from chickenpox, the sores healed and the other symptoms went away, It remains with you for life. The virus hides out in nerve cells, usually in the spine, but it can reactivate. Somehow, the virus gets a signal that your immunity has become weakened. This triggers a reactivation of the virus which then follows a nerve path that begins at specific points in the spine, continues around one side of the body, and surfaces at the nerve endings in the skin. The pattern of the rash reflects the location of that nerve path.

It is important to see a doctor as soon as you experience shingles symptoms because the severity and duration of an attack of shingles can be significantly reduced by immediate treatment. The doctor will usually treat with antiviral drugs, which may also help stave off the painful after-effects of shingles. For most healthy people, the lesions heal, the pain subsides within 3 to 5 weeks, and the blisters leave no scars. It can reoccur.

The good news is that in May 2006, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved a **vaccine** to prevent shingles in people age 60 and over who have already had chickenpox but who have not had shingles. The vaccine is designed to boost the immune system and protect older adults from shingles later on. Basically a stronger version of the chickenpox shot that millions of children and adults have already received, the widespread use of the chickenpox vaccine means that fewer people will get chickenpox in the future, and if people do not get chickenpox, they will not get shingles. Use of the shingles and chickenpox vaccines may one day make shingles a rarely occurring disease.



In case you didn't know, we have a fund designated for assisting local parish and beyond-the-parish families. For you and others who have a particular crisis/need beyond the help of available resources, we try to be of help.

Our South Coast Crisis line is a first line resource for emergency needs, but at times, our pastor deems it necessary to seek other resources.

If this is something your heart is in tune to, feel welcome to make a gift. Make checks out to 'St. Paul's'. Note in the memo line of your check: "Pastor's Discretionary funds".

It is another way we can choose to reach out in Christ's love. All information related to this assistance is strictly confidential. Sometime that one in need might even be you. Blessings on the way.

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
St. Paul's Community UMC





See page 1

Coastal Singers Chorus
in concert at Gualala Arts Center
SATURDAY MAY 22nd

KID'S NIGHT OUT!
- FRIDAY APRIL 16 -

5:15 - 7:15 p.m.
for Children 4-12 years



Mark Your Calendars!

Our turn to cook and host the
**SOUTH COAST SENIOR CENTER
SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER DINNER**

will be

FRIDAY, JULY 23rd



**BLUE PLATE
SPECIAL**

*Home-cooked
Breakfast!*

**Saturday, APRIL 24th
8-11 a.m.**

Come be a Team member!
Greet & Serve our neighbors

**The Mendocino Christian Women's
Luncheon & Fellowship**

Thursday 12 Noon - 2:30 p.m.

APRIL 22nd

Come attend this gathering
of Christian women from all
along our coast,
Cleone to Sea Ranch.

"Building a Stronger Community of Faith"
through Education, Evangelism and Prayer"

**St. Paul's Community
United Methodist Church**

P.O. Box 25

Pt. Arena, CA 95468

www.spcumc.org

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