



# Beacon

ST. PAUL'S COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 40/50 SCHOOL ST., POINT ARENA, CA 95468

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2010

[www.spcumc.org](http://www.spcumc.org)

## Friday July 23rd Hosting S. Coast Seniors Friday Night Spaghetti Feed

It was St. Paul's turn to host & provide fixings for the Senior Center Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser. Thank you all! Your hands, prep, time and welcoming hearts made it a really fun & fruitful time. THANK YOU! Liz Elstun, to taking the helm one more time! Your leadership was top notch and fruitful!



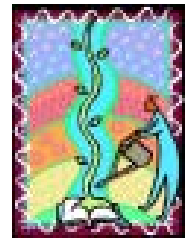
Together we served up good food & fellowship earning \$815 for the S. Coast Senior Center

Join Us for dialogue, evaluation & important decisions at Church Council.

NEXT MEETING:

**SUNDAY  
September 5th  
8:45 a.m.**

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR LATE SUMMER/EARLY FALL STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS Beginning soon See page 6



## KID'S NIGHT OUT IS 'GOING CAMPING'

Friday eve  
**AUGUST 27th**  
5:30-7:30 p.m.



**'Stone Soup Saturdays'** are 'Once a Month' *First Saturday* occasions in August, September and October 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

## FIFTH SUNDAY MUSIC SUNDAYS SUNDAY AUGUST 29th & OCTOBER 31 10:15 A.M.



Let's worship together and learn some more of the stories behind the faith songs we love. We'll share how/where we learned them.

It's a great setting & occasion for bringing someone new to worship with you- someone who may be out of the habit or feel they are 'strangers'.

Those of you who play instruments are encouraged to tell Ken you'd be willing to play along in August &/or October. We'll share a meal together afterward!

**Our next Leadership Meeting is Sunday August 1st at 12:45 p.m. after worship** Join us for a shared meal and the upcoming small & large group studies and events. We meet in Biaggi Hall.

**Our Next Time Change: FALL BACK happens on November 7th**

**Our Thanksgiving 'Service of Gratitude' takes place on Sunday November 21 at 3 pm-** with a TWIST- a special "Thank You dinner" here at St. Paul's. (See page 6)

JOIN US AT SUNDAY MORNING ROUNDTABLE ...

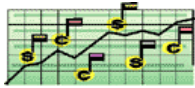
SUNDAYS 9:09 a.m. in Biaggi Hall

As we talk about: our beliefs, faith, who we caught our faith in God from and more ... questions and ponderings, going deeper, building community.

Join Us wherever you are on your faith journey

# OUR STEWARDSHIP OF COMMUNITY & RESOURCES— August 2010

FINANCE MATTERS – June 2010



## St. Paul's Monthly Financial Summary as of June 30, 2010

ThisYear LastYear  
(2010) (2009)

<b>Money Received Year to Date</b>	37,541	37,241
<b>Budgeted Receipts Year to Date</b>	39,213	35,654
<b>Excess/(Under) Year to Date</b>	-1,672	1,587
<b>Operational Expenses Year to Date</b>	45,428	41,925
<b>Budgeted Operational Expenses</b>	41,979	44,679
<b>Savings/(Over) Year to Date</b>	-3,449	2,754
<b>Net at 4/30/10</b>	-5,121	4,341
<b>Budgeted Loss</b>	(6,485)	(15,604)

Brothers and Sisters, I find myself out of flowery words and in the mood to speak to you very plainly. It is becoming increasingly difficult to meet our monthly bills. We have continued to exhibit a 'failure to thrive' financially for the third year in a row. The people who are giving regularly are at the limit of what they can give. I will continue to let the congregation know via the prayer chain when we have a critical bill to pay and not enough cash in the bank.

Please continue to pray hard for the future of St. Paul's. Our hearts and faith are strong, but we are not meeting our financial obligations and will need to make some major changes soon in how we define ourselves as a church.

Ellen Buechner,  
St. Paul's Treasurer

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Please see a corresponding article on page 9 regarding "Adopt a *Shared Giving Line* item" ~ a creative, 'Going Green' thought from Pastor Tina.

We can't direct the winds,  
but we *can* adjust the sails  
... and become 'windchangers'  
in this 21st Century.



Mendocino Christian Women's Picnic  
was another great Outing



2

Saturday July 17th in Comptche

THANK YOU ALL for your continued prayers, presence, witness and financial support in these challenging circumstances.

We know our entire coast is having to reconsider how we set priorities and fund our missions. Everyone's part, joined together, strengthens our reach and God's mission for us, honoring God and touching our neighbors with hope and love. We have been diligently working at keeping expenses at or below budgeted amounts. Please take a moment to review your mid-year statement sent out early in July. Give me feedback where needed.

If you are behind in your giving, any effort to close the gap will be greatly appreciated. If you find that your pledge is no longer realistic, or, if it is possible to *increase* your giving for the remainder of 2010, a phone call, conversation or snail mail to me, St. Paul's Financial Secretary, Frances Buentjen, would be very helpful right now.

We must critically think through our journey for the remainder of this year, 2010. Frances Buentjen: P.O. Box 776, Pt Arena 95468)

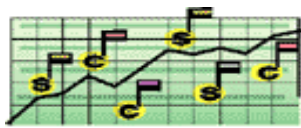
Frances

We ask for your bold prayers and ideas.

YOUR GIFTS OF LOVE ARE DELIVERED  
With GREAT APPRECIATION

**Your 25 Birthing Kits and 1 infant layette** were delivered to our CA/ NV Annual Conference collection bound for the UMCOR West Supply Depot in Utah late June. Liz Elstun, Pastor Tina and Bill did the last minute compiling of the final items for the kits you prepared. THANK YOU!

**At our Stone Soup Saturday on August 7** we will complete the current 25 birthing kits and make up some layettes as well. They will be delivered when we travel to and work at the Depot in Salt Lake City later this Fall! THANK YOU to all who have been 'helping us help others'!



**As I look at the chart to the left** with a mixture of concern, hope and stronger eyes of faith, I can't help thinking about the seasons. In my past few years as your pastor, I have particularly come to know and feel the "rhythms" of the church year, including the financial ebbs and flows of the summer, the coast and more recently, the economic downturn, delayed and now fully here on this coast. Our community non-profits are feeling the challenge, as well.

**As folks move away**, as some have passed on and as the next wave of neighbors have not yet arrived due to economic downturn, **even now** God's loved ones are looking/longing for a connection; some are making that connection with us, *some have been served*, and *others are*, right now, stepping in and serving others alongside us.

**Our small groups include** folks who are friends and neighbors beyond this congregation. Lives *are* being encouraged, strengthened and some, transformed. Nothing is as exactly as it was a few years back, nor will *'what is now'* remain the same.

**We can influence that change** if we so choose. Jim Wallis reminds us "We can't direct the wind, but we *can* adjust the sails... and become 'windchangers'

**This is what we can count on** and be energized by, or ... be fearful of. What does remain the same, is God's unflinching and steadfast love and presence, hour by hour, day by day.



**As I prepare to meet with our leadership team** this week late in July, I pray for wisdom and insight, wanting to stay out of the way of God's Spirit, yet walk with you creatively and boldly through this wilderness into new and higher places of risk and faithful connection.

**We are about growing relationships-** in our gatherings and in the mission fields. inviting new faces into relationship with us and sharing our stories, re-embracing our DNA and our unique essence and purpose as people of God.

**After returning from** the invigorating worship experiences, reunions, legislative dialogues, ministry reports & decisions as United Methodists at the crossroads in our CA/NV Conference, I've been listening: for your passion, your steady/increasing vital pulse among you and from folks we meet here during these late July days of summer.

**Embracing the visitors God sends** our way for renewal and rest, welcoming new folks who are testing (or being tested by) the coast life as 'possibility', considering what sort of radical hospitality that may demand of us that they might find a place and faith community that says "home" for their faith journey in such a time as this -- this is our summertime mission while continuing to feed the hunger and offer living water.

**My unprecedented stay through year nine** as your pastor is taking us into uncharted waters - both of relationship and financial impact. We used to say the Conference moved pastors too often; now we understand the *why* and the *financial impact* of long pastorates on a small rural parish.

**I will continue to talk about** these aspects of our lives shared. As we imagine together how we will touch others in bolder, more life-giving ways *and* at the same time, financially sustain our life together, I invite you to seriously join with me as my prayer partner, daily in this journey across uncharted waters and with courage in this summer of 2010.

1.) **Please consider** joining me at our Sunday mornings at Roundtable (9:09 am.) and also, attending workshops with me beyond the byways of this place, equipping yourself for 21st century ministry and leadership among our Circuit and Conference UM lay and clergy peers.

2.) **Consider saying 'yes'** to our VIM (Volunteers in Mission) trip to the West UMCOR Supply Depot later this Fall. Rev Brian Diggs is eager to meet & host us as a work team and inform you of UM ministry in mission to the world. The World is, *indeed*, our parish.

**God has steered our little ship/congregation** through many storms of economic and population changes-foreseen and surprising -in these 143 years. God's grace has accompanied us and challenged us to be bold and risk generously for God's Kin-dom and God has never let us down. Journeying with us day by day, God calls us all to be faithful.

**Thank you for stepping out farther**, reaching wider and deeper, trusting beyond our comfort.

## AROUND OUR UM CONFERENCE

Good Nutrition Program at L.I.F.E. Receives  
Peace with Justice Grant



Two times annually Peace with Justice Grants are awarded to various ministries in the California-Nevada Annual Conference.

This year one of those grants went to the Life Is for Everyone, Inc. (L.I.F.E.) Good Nutrition Program, located in the East Salinas Family Center United Methodist Fellowship.

L.I.F.E. is a not-for-profit after-school program to prevent gang involvement, improve students' nutrition, provide safe recreation opportunities, and improve English language verbal, written, and reading skills.

Currently 47 students, kindergarten through middle school, are attending the L.I.F.E. program. They receive tutoring Tuesday through Thursday, and on the other days of the week may go to the center for recreation, crafts, and healthy snacks.

At the beginning of each school year program director Sandra Gomez talks about the types of snacks the kids will be receiving and why it's important for them to learn about good nutrition. She also focuses on table manners and taking no more than they can eat, and teaches that seconds are available after everyone has had firsts.

Program volunteers work to establish caring relationships with the youth and children in the program. By setting high expectations and providing opportunities for the kids to contribute, they foster both social competence and a sense of self and purpose through those relationships.



**Stone Soup Saturdays** are  
'Once a Month'  
*First Saturday Occasions* in  
August, September & October.  
Invite someone or bring someone  
you know of who needs  
a connection or just some fun  
with others!  
1st Saturdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

## EACH ONE BRING ONE

### WHAT IS YOUR I.Q.?

Here's a tool for measuring your I.Q. - your Invitational Quotient, that is! Discover how inviting we honestly are!

- 1.) **Have you spoken** to anyone since this past week's gathering at worship to share where you have 'seen God at work' this past week or shared a prayer together ?
- 2.) **Have you called or sent** a message of concern or care to any who have been missing (or ill) from our faith community gatherings?
- 3.) **Have you invited and brought** a newcomer with you to one of our faith community gatherings (Worship, study group, Stone Soup, the Spaghetti Fundraiser) in the past 6 months? The past 3 months? The past 2 weeks?
- 4.) **Have you encouraged or invited** anyone who does not attend any church /spiritual group to visit with you to become better acquainted?
- 5.) During the past month **have you introduced** yourself to someone you did not know and extended your own welcome, personal connections, an invitation outside of church life?
- 6.) **Do you pray for the ability to use opportunities** like these as God opens them for you, that others may experience the love of God and friendship with this 'Body of Christ'?
- 8.) **Do you pray that the Spirit will guide you and give you** courage and creativity in reaching out to "friends you haven't met yet"?

### So, how do we measure up?

Are we "*practicing offering Invitations*" this year, inviting, bringing and introducing our new & not so new friends of all ages to the others in this household of God called St. Paul's Community?

**They may be folks who yearn to experience** God and gain understanding of Jesus and his mission, his example and extravagant way of offering abundant Life! Reach out to one other. Be amazed at how God will give new and former relationships abundant life!

## HOLY COMMUNION

Join us at the Lord's Table ! We celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion during our Sunday Worship Services on alternating Sundays.

Our Communion bread is lovingly baked by several of you, members and friends of St. Paul's community. The elements are prepared with care for the table by Millie Davis. Lord Jesus is our host.

Come not because you must, but because of God's amazing grace, you may.

ALL are welcome.



### A Word of Thanks

Heartfelt thanks are extended to our worship hosts, worship leaders, musicians and those who offer special food/treats for coffee fellowship. Your hospitality is so important in our welcoming. We appreciate You!

### A Word of Holiday Opportunity

Lorilee Brown is inviting you to add to the Christmas collectables that she and Carol Hofer put aside before our last yard sale. In collaboration with the Soroptimist Club and S. Coast Seniors we will have a place at the Holiday sale at the Gualala Community Center. Nice holiday items are welcome; please hold on to them until they give the word and location to deliver them for pricing. Make sure they are clean pressed and ready 'sale-ready', please. Ask family & friends to donate!

### Birthdays

8/2	Buzz Hofer
8/3	Eunice Campbell
8/5	Liz Elstun
8/8	Lewis Chapman
8/8	Chris Thompson
8/16	Krysteen Terlow
8/22	George Campbell
8/28	Max Moore
8/28	Brittney Rose



### Anniversaries

8/4	Ted and Connie Matz
8/6	Lewis and Christina Chapman
8/14	Jack and Shirley Walton
8/21	George and Eunice Campbell
8/22	Bob and Janet Sears
8/29	Tony and Ann Greene

## SOMETHING NEW

In late September we will begin something new in our offering of alternative worship and fellowship experiences. It will be an opportunity to be in connection with community members who cannot put Sunday morning worship into their week.

In September of 2007 we let go of our Taize music/prayer service after 4 years. We began conversations and visioning to enable another experience to emerge where all would be welcome and God is honored. The time is now to offer something new for new people and seasoned sojourners!

Join in our next Church Council SUNDAY morning September 5 to share and dialog about it. With hope and creativity, we will be ready to offer a fresh opportunity and time to those outside our current circle this Fall & Winter!

Join Us for Dialogue at our  
**Sunday morning**  
**Roundtable discussions 9:09 a.m.**

## SUNDAY AUGUST 28th

5th Sunday Music Sunday

Here at St. Paul's

Picnic / BBQ follows worship!

**Our faith community needs** serving leaders as we begin to consider our church leadership for 2011!

Please pray about offering your gifts and strengths . . . *even your weaknesses* for strengthening!

Where, perhaps like Moses, is God calling you and you feel ill-equipped for such leadership?

+ Imagine yourself as a teacher or a prayer, study or a small group book study leader.

+ Imagine yourself as a mentor for a young person or a journalist for St. Paul's BEACON,

a Caring Caller within and beyond our congregation equipped for times when struggles and illness isolate us from one another.

AND...

Who might God be nudging you to invite and bring into a God-centered relationship with others?

Talk with jim or Eunice- your lay leaders or Pastor Tina. We are the ones we've been waiting for!

## New CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES Begin in AUGUST

### Two Ecumenical St. Paul's Video-Supported Study Groups begin North & South

**The Gualala Study Group** sets out on a fresh new journey through the ancient biblical Word, meeting Tuesday eves at the Tackett's, then the Matz's home beginning on AUGUST 24th at 7:07 p.m. **Jim Tackett** serves as our group leader. Call Jim for details/directions. >>> 707- 785-1024 / JTackett@wildblue.net <<<<

We'll explore "*The Old Testament*" in a 12-week long study from The Teaching Company Resource Center, broken into 6 week segments.

**Our video guest presenter**, Professor Amy-Jill Levine, will present the material in 24 lectures. She is the director of the Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality at Vanderbilt University. Her lectures will offer an introduction to the history, literature, and religion of ancient Israel and early Judaism as it is presented in the collection of texts called the Old Testament, the Hebrew Bible, and the Tanakh.

**Attention will be given** not only to the content of the biblical books, but also to the debates over their meaning and the critical methods through which they have to be interpreted.

**The Point Arena Study Group** sets out on a fresh new journey through Disciple Bible Study- that is, 'becoming disciples through Bible study'. Our approach is thematic as well as drawing on the various lenses and discovering the blinders that affect our reading and interpreting the scriptures. As we learn and share our own journey together, we'll see and hear, read and learn anew as a diverse group of individuals in community. **Pastor Tina** serves as our group leader.

**The first 4 sessions are:** The Biblical Word, The Creating God, The Rebel People and The Called People.

Beginning **August 25 at 5 p.m. Wednesdays**, we'll meet for 1.25 hours weekly for 4 weeks, take a 2 week break and resume the journey.

#### In Joy and Thanksgiving

Ellen Buechne and Jef Schultz, Jim & Carol Tackett, Millie and Jeff Davis, Liz Elstun, Buzz & Carol Hofer, Lorilee Brown, Marion Zinn, Ted and Connie Matz, Sharon & Art Raasch, Aunt Ruth Baumgartner and Sara Johnsen; Mimi Dallas and Irene Terlouw.

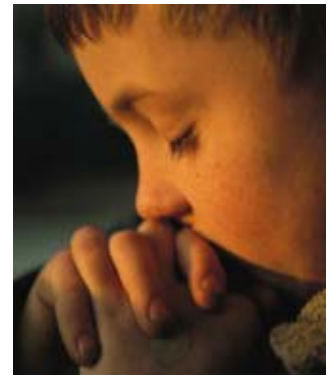
For the 6 campers whose lives were deepened at St. Dorothy's Camp & for our good partnership w/ Good Buy Clothes and Shepherd of the Sea Mission for supporting community children from our collaborating ministry.

I Love You . . .

For seeing me  
as  
I wish I were . . .

for hearing  
what I mean  
and not just  
what I say ...

For knowing  
how I feel ...  
and for helping  
me  
to grow.



O LORD,  
HEAR  
OUR PRAYERS

Our prayers of concerns have outnumbered our prayers of joys. We lift up many whose lives touch and impact our own. May God's mercy and grace offer comfort, hope, encouragement, love and companionship along the way.

#### In their healing time of loss/grief

Kathi Gordon & family, Tony Robbins, Ted & Connie Matz

#### In Friendship and Love: for healing and wholeness

Fr. Theo O'Sullivan, Miguel & Sonia Torrado, Rev. Alyce Soden, Fritz Campbell, Margarette Biaggi, Ellen Owens, Jean Piper,, Fran Root, Jeanne Hallburg, Jack Rasmussen, Elise Wainscott Dr. Dick & Marie Duncan, Iona & Ken Riley, Claire, age 13, Marilyn Cowan, Rev. Carole Bergman, Rev. Ron Stever, Sue Hansen & Bobbie Penney, Linda Bostwick, Claire Skilton, Laura Senteney, Sharon Baylis, .

Rev. Victoria and Gerry Schlintz, Lee and Donna Marsh, Nancy Epanchin, Paula Phillips, Susan Fuller, Dena & Marla Habe, Bee Hoover, Max and Ruth Moore, Rev. Wanda Windsor, Doug Carey, Rufus Savage-Friedman and Guthrie, Bobbie and Bo Hiatt (sister & brother-in-law of Connie Matz), John Moore and Candace Moore, Barbara Juneau, Dan Perkins, Frances Buentjen, Ellen Owens, and others we know of and love.

**For Encouragement & More Joy** Amanda & Savannah Pearman, the Kritz family, Francie & Ken Scofield, the Terlouw children and grandchildren, Geo, the Buentjen children and grand children, Kim Thompson and her three boys, Jo, Nick, Ariel & Chris Majorana, Rob Harper, Barbara Velasquez; . We lift up our many community friends living with cancer, heart disease, chronic pain, chronic illness and /or disability; those who are challenged by addictions, anger, abuse, and/or isolation, fear and loneliness.

We remember Margarette's sister- in -law Helen, the Scott's, the Gillmores, Chris Thompson moving soon with Katie & Mark Young to WA State, Kelsey & Miranda & Berit Johansen and Paul Key in their move and new home in Yuba City, Marc and Jeremy Senteney.

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION OVERVIEW JUNE 2010

SACRAMENTO, CA / PT. ARENA, CA

When members of the California-Nevada Annual Conference gathered for their 162nd annual conference session, June 16-19, 2010, our emphasis was on fruitfulness. "We must be accountable for the fruit that we give," said Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr. in his State of the Conference Address. "Mr. Wesley had a thing about fruit. Jesus had a thing about fruit. I guess it's in my DNA to have a thing about fruit."

After citing reductions in the numbers of churches reporting professions of faith, baptisms, and confirmation classes in 2009, the bishop read aloud Luke 13:6-9, the parable of the fig tree, and added, "It's not a numbers game – it's a Scripture game." His message was reinforced by the conference's guest speaker, Missouri Area Bishop Robert Schnase, who taught from his *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* and *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*. (At our Sunday 9:09 a.m. Roundtable in August we will be viewing and discussing Bishop Schnase's seminar

**Dr. Marcia McFee led the assembly in inspirational worship** focused around the concepts of radiating joy, initiating relationship, and "co-creating the Reign." Bishop Schnase and Dr. McFee conducted workshops for guests of the conference on Thursday morning, while members participated in legislative sections. That afternoon Jennifer Rodia, director of Igniting Ministry for United Methodist Communications, conducted a Rethink Church workshop for youth delegates to Annual Conference Session.

**The youth showed themselves** to be truly "the church of NOW," fully engaging in the parliamentary process as well as in the battle to eliminate malaria from the continent of Africa by 2015. The bishop's annual reception this year was given over to a basketball-themed fundraiser, "Slam Dunk Malaria," in which the Youth Delegation raised \$4,681.53 for Imagine No Malaria – \$1,040 of it through texting.

**At our Conference Secretary Kristin Sachen's urging to "Let's go viral to end this disease,"** those assembled and those watching from home through live video stream texted the word "malaria" to donate \$10 to the 'Imagine No Malaria' campaign. Jennifer Rodia reported that she was able to assist someone in sending the first text of his life to participate in the text donation process!

**Several key pieces of legislation were approved.** Among them: a proposal to direct bill active clergy pension costs; a resolution reducing the number of districts from seven to four; and a recommendation to suspend Division V of the Standing Rules for a period of two years, "for the purpose of allowing flexibility and innovation in re-aligning the work of the Annual Conference with the four areas of mission focus."

**The conference approved resolutions in support of** "humane" state budgets for California and Nevada; in support of a bill that would exclude offenders under the age of 18 from being sentenced to "life without possibility of parole"; and a resolution calling for local churches to become bases for "confronting unjust heterosexist structures."

**The conference also approved recommendations requiring** active clergy to maintain an active email address, local churches to maintain an Internet presence in some form, and local churches to create and maintain a "communications coordinator" position. We approved a resolution supporting self-determination and independence for the people of East Turkistan, established a Committee on Pacific Island Ministry, and agreed to designate all or part of the 2011 Conference Offering to the Methodist Mission in Cambodia.

**The 2010 Conference Offering was taken on behalf of** the Gilead Center for Children and the Ethelou D. Talbert Shelter for Girls in the Philippines. Check the Conference website for more details of these ministries.

## CA/NV ANNUAL CONFERENCE OVERVIEW (Contd.)

contributions and more than 44,000 health kits!

Our conference closed on Saturday following the Ritual of Commissioning and Ordination, "A New Heaven and a New Earth," in which nine persons – five women and four men, with an average age of 43 – were ordained.

Conference Statistician J. Scott Allred reported membership gains by 118 churches, compared to 115 in 2008. However, 2009 also saw the greatest loss in overall membership in a single year since 1981. Worship attendance stands at 37,424, down 718. Church school attendance stands at 8,150.

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### Youth Reporter Shares Reflections on ACS

Megan Hillmon, Woodland UMC

(Editor's Note: There were 26 Youth Delegates to the 2010 Annual Conference Session, representing 15 churches. In the course of the week the young people participated in Legislative Sections, attended District Dinners, attended a Rethink Church/*Imagine No Malaria* workshop, and raised \$4,681.53 for the *Imagine No Malaria* campaign. We asked a member of the delegation to share her reflections on the experience.)

I feel very blessed to be chosen to represent the youth at my church even though this was my first year attending Annual Conference Session. Annual Conference was not at all what I was expecting – which was meetings and just listening to people talking; nothing very interactive. I was pleasantly surprised when we got in and there was music! It made it feel not just like a meeting, but like a church service, as well.

I had a lot of fun learning new things about being UMethodist, the issues, and about John Wesley. This year's fundraiser, *Slam Dunk Malaria*, was something that I had never done before. I have never been part of some kind of fundraiser that was that large. I am very excited about how much money we were able to raise. I met new friends, and had a great time while learning about the work of the church. ~ Megan

#### Comments

1. John Berryman wrote on 6/25/2010 Congratulations to you and all the other youth delegates including three from our own church. We look to all of you with pride of accomplishment and continued good works. You are the substance toward who we look to pass our legacy and continue the work of Christ and His Church. John Berryman, Lay Leader Crescent City.



## SAVE THE DATE:

A 'SERVICE' OF GRATITUDE

Sunday, November 21 at 3 pm

Our Thanksgiving 'Service of Gratitude' takes on a new twist this year, serving those who help us serve our neighbors in difficult times as well as those who provide services to our faith community. It is an opportunity to host guests who have made a difference in the community. We hope that this will become a new way of praising & thanking God and Neighbor at Thanksgiving time.

Biaggi Hall is the gathering place; Sunday, November 21 at 3 pm is the date and time.

Over the next couple of months we'll make up the guest list. Let's think together about who we will invite. Eunice has stepped up to lead our plans.

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## LIVING GREEN

The National Council of Churches **Eco-Justice website** expands to include: An Online Eco-Justice Blog, Facebook, Youtube.

**When Jesus gave his Great Commission** to spread the Gospel to all the world, was he including the World Wide Web as well? **The NCC Eco-Justice Program** has launched new efforts to reach internet users by creating a blog, a Facebook group, and a Youtube acct.

**The Eco-Justice blog** gives weekly updates about NCC participation in ecological issues, upcoming events, new resources and congregations around the country that are taking action to protect Creation.

**The Youtube account** features videos made by partner organizations, clips of NCC events, and videos from congregations taking green seriously ...and with joy.

**And, if you are on Facebook**, join the NCC Eco-Justice Facebook page. You will be virtually connected to others around the country who feel called to protect God's creation.

### Green Church Search: Share your congregation's story

The National Council of Churches wants to hear our "Green Congregation" story!

"Tell us what your church is doing for the earth; the NCC will share your story to inspire others. We'll also select one congregation to receive a \$500 grant to support its environmental work. Click on to submit your story and read the submission guidelines."

## Cal-Nev Contingent Is at Young People's Convocation in Berlin



### Attending the Global Convocation from the California-Nevada Annual Conference are:

(front to back; left-right) Carolyn Talmadge, Shelby Stockdale, Anna Pidlypchak, Candace from South Hayward UMC, Kira Azzam, Emma Rhodes, and Warren Gill; back row, from left: Margot Hanson, Emily Allen, Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr., Elizabeth Beachem, Maryah Tucker, and Aaron Rhodes.

The present and future Global United Methodist Church is being represented in Berlin, Germany, this month as the Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly brings together young United Methodists from around the world. The delegates currently are in legislative sessions.

"This event is occurring at a crucial time in the life of our church," says the Rev. Michael Ratliff, associate general secretary of Young People's Ministries. "Young church leaders from around the globe will gather to discuss the future of our denomination. They have chosen to invest their time, energy and talent in influencing a new future for The United Methodist Church. What will transpire may have ramifications for us all."

The five-day event includes Worship, Bible study and leadership development for the participants, who will come together to bridge the social, economical, religious, ethnic and political gaps and the many differences that often separate and divide us.

To E-mail your Prayer Requests:

**Ellen Buechner at  
ellenbuechner@hotmail.com  
or call 884-3607**

If you need help from the pastor  
please call **Pastor Tina at:**

**882-2074**

**E-mail: ringldr2@yahoo.com**

## Adopt a 'Shared Giving' Line Item

**Each year we respond** with first-fruit giving to our CA/NV Annual Conference and General (Worldwide) UM Conference with our "Shared Giving" benevolences (aka: *apportionments*). We have been well-known in our GG District for paying them in full up until last year, 2009.

And, though we have not always paid our shared Golden Gate District 'Askings' in full, we have always paid a regular portion of them.

**Thank you** for taking seriously our UM connection .

The connectional church funding allows small churches, like ours, to give beyond our four walls in wider reaches of justice and compassion than we could/would ever, otherwise!

**DID YOU KNOW:** that some of what what we send , comes back to us, sustaining us, from everyone else's CA/NV Conference 'Shared Giving' added to ours !

We regularly support in full **the amount to REMM (the Redwood Empire Methodist Mission)**, providing generous grants for our church program ministries and at times, maintenance (Ilike the (2) forced air furnaces- in St. Paul's kitchen and in PALS). Over the past 15 years... likely, even longer... and to our district ministry needs. So much comes back to us!

**We can reach our full commitment of Shared Giving this year** by: individuals adopting the area/s that touch your heart particularly ... or 2 or 3 of us together .... in Second-Mile Giving . Together we can do much more than we realize. Together we are pretty amazing, in reality! Stretch your reach and see how God provides.

**Thank you to those who have already stepped up** and who now challenge others of us to make a way in our commitments , pledges and tithes in faith.

### **"How much are you talking about"?**

- >>> District Program: \$ 150
- >>> REMM: \$150
- >>> Black UM Colleges \$ Pd/full (206)
- >>> Africa University \$Pd/full (46)
- >>> Ministerial Education Fund: \$Pd/full (516)
- >>> World Service: \$ 754
- >>> Episcopal Fund: \$ 207.52
- >>> Clergy Pension: \$ 2450

**Every dollar given** is a dollar we did not plan for our own living, but offered for others, that their lives might be raised up. Thank you for possibilities small and larger. Together, we ARE a vital ministry partner .



**KID'S NIGHT OUT  
FELLOWSHIP & SUPPER**

**FRIDAY AUGUST 27  
(5:30- 7:15 p.m.)**

for children 4-11 years old  
Parents/siblings are warmly welcomed  
A children's faith fellowship  
PALS Play yard 'Camp Out'



**Senior Center  
Spaghetti Feed**

**LABOR OF LOVE**

As the July hosts  
we brought in \$815  
for S.Coast Seniors!!

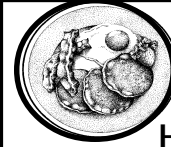
on FRIDAY  
JULY 23rd



*Thank You  
Everyone*

**St. Paul's Community  
United Methodist Church**  
P.O. Box 25  
Pt. Arena, CA 95468  
[www.spcumc.com](http://www.spcumc.com)

*Postmaster:  
Address Service Requested*



**BLUE PLATE  
SPECIAL**

**Home Cooked Breakfast**

Come have breakfast  
before/after shopping  
at Good Buy Clothes  
& our Community  
Library sale here in Pt.  
Arena.

**Saturday  
August 28 &  
September 25  
8 am ~ 11am**

**Come Greet & Serve your Neighbors!!**

**ART in the REDWOODS at**

Gualala Arts Center,  
Off Old Stage Rd.

**AUGUST 20, 21, 22, 2010**  
Friday through Sunday



**OCTOBER BEACON DEADLINE:  
SEPTEMBER 19th**

**FOR** articles, poems & prayers, photos, and  
'dates & events' calendar items.

Send to Pastor Tina: [ringldr2@yahoo.com](mailto:ringldr2@yahoo.com)