



The Messenger

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Blessing Shared, Faith Expressed

At its meeting held on April 15, 2007 the Church Council adopted a budget for 2007. After operating with an interim budget, Mark Cowdin, our Finance Committee chair, led the council in a consideration of current giving and projected need.

Because of the continuing generosity and faithful giving of the congregation, we are not only well ahead of giving for the first three months in 2006 -by a total of \$81,196- we enjoy a surplus of funding at this point in the year. Our Business Manager, Tim Sun, reports that as of March 31st, the giving to expense balance stands at \$29,486. Along with the increased offerings and added support from the preschool ministry, careful attention to spending has resulted in the surplus cited above.

In light of the expectation of \$1,279,794 in support of the budget, the council agreed to reduce the budgets of administration by \$12,000 and that of music by about \$4,000 from the requests made by each of these departments. At this time, the budget is balanced.

The fruits of the work of our Stewardship Committee are being realized and we expect that its work and our responses will continue. An opportunity to practice the spiritual discipline of tithing is being undertaken by some during the month of April. Other invitations to become better stewards of all that God has provided will be brought forth in the months ahead.

We are grateful for the budget support of both the Foundation (\$384,000) and the

Board of Trustees (\$128,655).

Challenges remain.

As reported in an earlier article, we must now supplement our good stewardship with fund-raising. Receipts from the use of the facility by others will provide significant support; the recent filming supplied \$26,000 to our general fund.

Projected support for the budget includes also \$30,000 to be realized from internal fund raising. The youth initiated a first response by offering money realized from babysitting at Valentine's Day to the general fund. The young people plan to sponsor several "concerts" in Great Hall to continue their support of our ministry together. A further offering of babysitting will be announced soon. A handmade quilt is offered as a silent auction item, again to support our general budget.

All can participate in the "Great All-Church Parking Lot Sale" that is scheduled for Saturday, June 16th. Great Hall will be available to receive items for the sale beginning Monday, June 11th. Before then, we are urged to search through closets, basements, garages, and sheds for those items that could be used by others. Rae Meyer (at e-mail address meyer5fam@charter.net or telephone number (818) 248-8092) would be glad to learn of those who could help transport household items to Great Hall during that week.

God has richly blessed us and now challenges us to faithfully employ these blessings in supporting the ministry to which we are called. Together, with God's help, we will fulfill this call.

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Prayer Quilt "Thank You's"

• Your precious prayer quilt in the smaller portable size has been received! I just love it – the pastel colors are warm and inviting and I feel so well cared for in its tender embrace.

Thank you so much for this loving and thoughtful gift. Your thoughts and prayers bring me comfort in this time of chemotherapy treatments and the resultant challenges. Again, thank you for your labor of love; I truly feel cared for.

Shalom, Mary Ann Swenson (our Bishop)

• "Our family thanks you so much for the beautiful quilt to keep our Jennifer warm and keep all her visitors in prayer. She is progressing daily and looks forward to one day visiting your church to give you a personal thank you."

"Thank you very much for the beautiful prayer quilt you made for my Mommie. Thanks and God bless."

"Thank you so much for the quilt for my Mommie. I say a prayer and tie a knot everytime."

"Thank You..."

Thank you for your email and for the happy news on FUMC Pasadena's gift from the church's Easter Offering for my ministry! Thanks and praise be to God! What a wonderful blessing! Thank you again to the Commission on Missions members, to you, and the rest of the congregation for your outreach to the church in the Philippines through Union Theological Seminary!

Your contribution is most timely. How

New Members Class

Please join the pastors for a one session orientation on Sunday, May 6th. We will begin with lunch together after worship and continue in the

"We thank you and our daughter will personally thank you."

[Notes from a card received from the family of Jennifer Boyd who is in a coma following an early February auto accident.]

• Thank you so very much for the lovely Prayer Quilt and I appreciate all the prayers for my recovery. The Catholics, Episcopalians and the Methodists are now praying for me, I can't lose!

Thank you and God Bless, Phil Lussier

• Thank you so much for this beautiful quilt, your thoughtfulness has touched me deeply.
With all my thanks, Pol Martin

• Thank you for your thoughtfulness and Bill's quilt! What a blessing you are. Make sure that the ones who helped and prayed for Bill are aware that their great love has been felt deeply in our home.

Love & Many Hugs, Ann Saper

many times in my ministry when I needed financial help, and unexpected gifts came! Indeed, God is faithful and an ever-present help, especially in times of need.

May the presence and power of the risen Christ fill your hearts and minds.

Gratefully, Rev. Afrie Songco Joye, PhD

Union Theological Seminary, Dasmarias, Philippines

Church Lounge through 3:00 pm. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or by calling the church office. You may also indicate your need for childcare.

Books about Moses and the Women in His Life

At the March meeting of CSLA, a short review was given of the book *Overcoming Life's Disappointments*, by Kushner. The premise of the book is based upon Moses' experiences becoming a leader of the Israelites and how he had to face each disappointment and move on. The first of two examples given was how Moses needed Aaron to speak in his behalf because of his speech impediment. The second was how he returned with the tablets of commandments but found the people worshipping a golden calf idol. After Moses destroyed the stone tablets, he had to begin all over again, which is like we must do sometimes.

This engendered interesting discussion of several of the Moses stories –about Zipporah, his wife, and Miriam, his sister. Our library has two novels about a fascinating relationship between Moses and these two women in his life. With “poetic license” each author portrays the narrative of Moses, Miriam and Zipporah differently, relating how Old Testament women in the time of Moses must have believed, sensed

and lived during the time of the Exodus. The first, a gift from Nancy Bumb, is Rebecca Kohn's *Seven Days to the Sea : An Epic Novel of the Exodus*, recently published this year.

The other novel, *Zipporah : Wife of Moses*, was published in 2005, which is Book Two of the Caanan Trilogy, by Marek Halter. These portrayals of Moses' wife and sister are as fascinating as that of the women in another book, *The Red Tent*. Zipporah helped Moses to face his past as a fugitive, and together with Miriam, to face his future as the leader of an enslaved people who needed to move on to freedom. For Zipporah's efforts, she faced disappointments – one of which was rejection by Moses' sister Miriam, and another was Moses' lack of time left over for her and their family.

The books are ready for you to check out and enjoy. It's amazing how people like us, separated by millennia from Old Testament people, face and handle disappointment in the same ways as they.

Lent and Easter Mission Offerings

Local and world mission projects benefited from the generous gifts the congregation gave to special offerings during Lent and Easter.

The Easter Sunday special offering received over \$6,246 which supports the work of Terry and Muriel Henderson in Mexico, Rev. Afrie Songco Joye in the Philippines, and Lydia Templeton with the Children, Youth and Family Collaborative in Los Angeles.

In addition, over \$600 was collected during Lent from the loose change that you put in the designated collection baskets. This money was divided equally between Friends in Deed and UMCOR.

Your generous gifts continue to support the work of God throughout the world. The Commission on Missions, Peace and Justice thanks each of you for the support you provide to these and other mission projects.



Don't miss this opportunity to experience history!

Friendship Days will be visiting the Edwards Air Force Base on Thursday, June 7th at 7:30 am. Cost is \$39 per person.

There are only a few spaces left so register today!

FUMC Vacation Bible School 2007



Lift Off!
Soaring to New Heights With God
July 9 -13; 9:00 am - 12:00 pm daily

The high-flying adventure will begin the summer as we prepare to give children a sky view of God's power and Jesus' love at this year's LIFT OFF! SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS WITH GOD VBS.

With this curriculum, children will have an extraordinary adventure filled with fun, excitement, and creative Bible-based activities. Five Flight Plans that will help them soar to new heights with God: "I will follow," "I will trust," "I will listen," "I will repent," and "I will serve."

Prayer is an important component of this curriculum. Children will see how the Bible characters were always talking and listening to God and Jesus. Children will learn Power Prayers from the Psalms. These verses are quick sentence prayers to use in their daily lives.

The curriculum emphasizes sharing

requests and teaching children to remember to pray for other people.

Plans are beginning for this great adventure, our own 'summer camp' at church!

Staff and assistants, youth and adult, are needed in all areas from teaching to snacks, crafts, science, music and recreation.

We will look forward to inviting our new Minister, Rev. Dr. Frank Trotter to visit and share this adventure and we will again join with our weekday FUMC preschool children and staff for a great week together.

Won't you join us? You can volunteer for partial days as well. We provide child care for staff children under three.

Please let us know where you can help! Contact co-directors Debbie Gara or Anne Dimmock through the church office.

Are you ready to soar?

Getting Ready

As we ready ourselves to receive and welcome the Reverend Dr. Frank Trotter as senior pastor, let us practice both activities by wearing name tags each Sunday. If lost or never secured, please contact the church office. For those needing replacements, a small \$4.50 charge will be levied. Any who have never received a nametag from the church will be supplied one at no cost.

Name tags come with magnetic backings so that they can be worn on all clothing. An alternative to magnets can be obtained, especially for those whose medical needs prevent the use of magnets.

Let's help Dr. Trotter learn our names through the regular use of name tags.

NAME TAG REQUEST

Complete and return to church office

Name *as you wish it to appear on tag* _____

Telephone _____ **E-mail** _____

Discernment Continues

Efforts to hear God's call to ministry to us as a congregation continue. Throughout the ages, faithful persons have striven to discern the Spirit's invitation and guidance in comprehending God's hope for our participation in the fulfillment of God's purposes. Some have retreated to the desert, others have undertaken extensive and prayerful solitude, still others have opened themselves more completely to the world.

A small committee of persons is now planning a day-long retreat to be held Saturday, June 9th. We are all invited to arrange schedules

so that we can participate in this important activity.

Until that day, our worship life will incorporate a time of silence for the purposes of prayer, whether it come about through the practices of prayer and meditation, or even through other ways of opening ourselves to the work of the Spirit. At points during these weeks, opportunities to report discernments will be supplied.

Let us open ourselves to God as we prepare for the ministry that is yet to be.

Summer Musical Auditions on May 19

The Theater Arts Committee encourages everyone to invite youth, from entering 7th graders to first year of college, to participate in this summer's musical, Cole Porter's *Anything Goes*. The musical is a great outreach opportunity for our church.

Auditions are May 19 at 9:30 in Great Hall. Youth do not need to audition to participate, but attending the audition is encouraged. Youth

read scenes, perform songs if they choose and learn a short dance. It's a fun morning and newcomers can get to know old-timers.

We need lots of actors for this play so tell family and friends who know youth who might be interested. The musical rehearsals begin at the beginning of July, run weeknights and Saturday mornings, and performances are August 1, 2, 3 and 4.



Sunday, May 13th
10:00 am in Worship
Mother's Day Musical
Presented by the children of the church.
Freewill offering



It's a Girl!

Congratulations to Dean and Susan Apy on the birth of their daughter:

Mallory Marie
born March 13!

Mother's Day Babysitting

The barrage of advertisements has begun. We are reminded on the radio and on television of all the various ways that we might offer thanks to our mothers, our grandmothers, the mothers of our children, or some other creative manifestation. Perhaps we even receive e-mails with still more reminders!

Just as creative as the means of communicating this important message is the variety of items we may purchase. Flowers are always an excellent option, brightly colored and good smelling. Jewelry is certainly a highly sought-after gift, albeit one that might require budgeting and saving. Spa packages, dinner cruises, personalized trinkets, and picture frames are items well worth consideration.

For those who are unsure what gift to

seek out, any of these are wonderful ideas, sure to result in the appropriate "oohs" and "aahs." Please stay away from such items as mops, skillets, and toilet-bowl brushes. Another great idea is an opportunity for mothers to have a "night out," complete with dinner that she doesn't have to prepare herself!

The Youth would like to offer help with this "night out." On Saturday, May 12th from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Youth (and some adults) will offer babysitting at the church in our Preschool and Sunday School rooms. Snacks will be provided, and places will be available for those children wishing (or needing) to sleep. Donations will be accepted and will be directed as an offering from the Youth to the Church's General Budget.

We look forward to serving you!

Youth Choir Invites Tour Angels

Planning for the annual Choir Tour continues in the able hands of Shan Halverson. Sounds of the Risen Son (our Youth Choir) is scheduled to travel to the New England area at the end of June for a whirlwind tour, offering the timeless gift of music. As has been their tradition, Sounds of the Risen Son will offer ministry in various United Methodist Churches, tentatively including locations in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and even Maine.

As we might imagine, costs for Choir Tour continue to rise even as many families struggle with the continuing rise of basic living

costs. Although we work diligently to minimize costs, some are challenged in the ability to participate.

We recognize this Tour as ministry and affirm these young persons as they serve through our prayers and our gifts. We would offer an opportunity to those who feel able to support this ministry more fully through the invitation of partial donations or even full scholarships. Checks may be made out to FUMC and marked "Choir Tour Angels" in the memo. Thank you for your support to this ministry.

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• ***To all Mothers this Mother's Day...*** •
• ***Thank you for all that you do so sacrificially. We honor all of you this Mother's Day*** •
• ***and pray that the Lord fills your day with love and blessings! Happy Mother's Day*** •
• ***from all of us here at First United Methodist Church of Pasadena.*** •
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Calendar of Events

Sunday, 05.06		Sunday, 05.13	Mother's Day
8:30 am & 11:00 am	Adult and Jr. Libraries open	8:30 am & 11:00 am	Adult and Jr. Libraries open
8:30 am	Confirmation Class	8:30 am	Confirmation Class
8:50 am	Pastor's Forum	8:50 am	Pastor's Forum
10:00 am	Worship in the Sanctuary	9:00 am	Children's, Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School
11:15 am	Coffee Hour/Silent Auction	10:00 am	Worship in the Sanctuary
11:30 am	Youth Handbell Choir	11:15 am	Coffee Hour
	Friends and Family Lunch	11:30 am	Youth Handbell Choir
11:45 am	New Members Class	4:30 pm	Youth Council Meeting
1:00 pm	Annual Handbell Concert	5:15 pm	Youth Choir
5:15 pm	Youth Choir	6:45 pm	Youth Dinner & Program
6:45 pm	Youth Dinner & Program		
Monday, 05.07		Monday, 05.14	
7:00 pm	<i>Christian Believer</i>	7:00 pm	<i>Christian Believer</i>
7:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Tuesday, 05.15	
Tuesday, 05.08		10:00 am	Social Service Office Open
9:30 am	The Yarn Ministry	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 27 Meeting
10:00 am	Social Service Office Open		Evangelism & Hospitality Meeting
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 27 Meeting	7:30 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting
7:30 pm	Adult Handbell Choir		Adult Handbell Choir
	AA Meeting		AA Meeting
Wednesday, 05.09		Wednesday, 05.16	
10:00 am	Foundation Office Open	10:00 am	Foundation Office Open
6:30 pm	SPRC Meeting	6:30 pm	Preschool Board Meeting
7:00 pm	Young People's AA Meeting		Young People's AA Meeting
7:30 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm	Youth Missions Council Meeting
			Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, 05.10		Thursday, 05.17	
7:00 pm	<i>Jesus in the Gospels</i>	7:00 pm	<i>Jesus in the Gospels</i>
	<i>Disciple Bible Study: Genesis</i>		<i>Disciple Bible Study: Genesis</i>
Friday, 05.11		Friday, 05.18	
12:00 pm	Preschool Teacher Luncheon	12:30 pm	Aldersgate Forum
Saturday, 05.12		7:00 pm	Community Youth Concert
5:00 pm	Mother's Day Babysitting	Saturday, 05.19	
		9:30 am	Prayer Quilt Ministry
			Auditions for Summer Musical
		6:00 pm	New Member Dinner

The Congregation in Worship

Sunday, 05.06.07

Text: Pslam 148; Acts 11:1-18; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

Sermon: Resurrection Living: Glorify and Love

Dr. Jerry Campbell, preaching

Sunday, 05.13.07

Text: Psalm 67; Acts 16:9-15; Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

Sermon: Resurrection Living: Teach and Remind

Children preaching

The altar flowers for today are given to the glory of God and dedicated to all mothers of FUMC members and friends by a church member.



Remembering Those Members Who Have Entered the Church Triumphant:

We remember Wendy Stivers' father, James D. Stiver, who passed on April 3, 2007.

We remember Mary Mallorys' brother, Bill Mallory, who passed on April 15, 2007.

We remember Patrick Gallager, FUMC's tenor soloist, who passed in 2006.

We mourn, but not as those without hope, for we are people of the Resurrection.



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