

# Homecoming Herald

“Rock Founded, Christ Centered, Faith Sustained”

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ARROYO GRANDE

AUGUST 2009

## Homecoming Weekend

### Celebration Dinner

Saturday, September 19, 2009

### 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Combined Sunday Service

September 20th at 10:30 AM

The **Homecoming Celebration Dinner** at the South County Regional Center is fast approaching. We are all looking forward to this time to reminisce with old friends, see pictures of times gone by and enjoy music and a program. Our own Jamie Foster has been named the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. California-Pacific Annual Conference Bishop, Rev. Dr. Mary Ann Swenson and her husband Jeff along with many of our past ministers, members and community dignitaries who will be in attendance.

Our own Bette Mankins will be preparing a delicious meal for all. The best news is...“It’s Free!” Remember that space at the Regional Center is limited so be sure that you have made your reservations for this extraordinary event. The absolute deadline for reservations is September 10. You will find a member of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee in Criswell Hall each Sunday ready to take your reservations or you can call the church office. If you have made reservations but now find you will not be able to attend please let Pat Wiemers or a member of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee know so that your reservation can be given to someone on the waiting list.

On **Celebration Sunday**, we will be honored to have as our guest preacher, the Rev. Dr. Mary Ann Swenson, our California–Pacific Conference Bishop. Be sure to check future church publications for details.

## Cross Sunday

August 16, 2009

You are invited to share your special crosses with your church family!

Bring your special crosses to Criswell Hall before 9:30am on Sunday morning the 16th of August. We'll have tables available to display your cross(es). This display of crosses will then be available for viewing between services (9:30am to 10:30am) and after the second service (11:30am). Take your crosses with you when you go home. If you can, provide a little write-up to sit next to your cross describing what makes it special to you, its history, what's notable, etc. It will be helpful if the write-ups are brief and use large print.

And, be sure to wear your favorite cross pendant, pin, earrings, etc. to worship!

This will be similar to our much-appreciated [Bible Sunday](#) event back in March.



The Sunday School and the Youth Group are being invited to let their creative juices flow and prepare crosses for display.

Other exciting features are being considered for this event, watch here for details.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

# ***Evensong***

**A *very special service* in a  
*very special location!***

On Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. there will be a very special service known as an "Evensong service" led by our choir director Julie Walters. An Evensong or evening prayer service is often celebrated in the Anglican Church in the late afternoon or evening. Most of the service is sung. It is roughly the equivalent of [Vespers](#) in the [Roman Catholic Church](#) and the [Lutheran churches](#). Our chancel choir first became aware of the Evensong service during their tour of England, several years ago and wanted to share this experience with the whole congregation.

Consisting of choral music and congregational singing along with prayer, scripture and meditation, this service will prepare us for Charter Sunday one week later. A highlight of this service will be its location. Through the generosity of the current residents, the Harvest Church, we will be able to return to our original starting point – the "Old Methodist Church" located in the Arroyo Grande Village. Since our congregation left that location and moved to the "new" church located at our current address, this building has had several identities but now, once again, it is home to a new house of worship. This will be an experience that you won't want to miss.



# **Your Last Opportunity!**

Sunday, **August 9<sup>th</sup>** will be your last opportunity to feed Miss Piggy, (AKA the Very Greedy Big Pig)! All proceeds from the little red piggy banks go to help defray the expenses of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Please remember to bring your filled little red piggy bank or your rolls of coins (extra wrappers are available in the church office) or paper money to church so that Miss Piggy will be very, very full!!!



*Many thanks to all who  
have already contributed!*

## **CARE AND FEEDING OF LITTLE PIGGY BANKS**

1. **Count your money** (*should you need to keep track for tax purposes;*)
2. Bring money to church on **"Feed the Pig Day;"**
3. **Empty change** into the *Big Pig* in Criswell Hall;
4. **Take your pig home** as a souvenir!



Our next full committee meeting will take place on **August 9<sup>th</sup>** at **11:45** in the **McMillan**

**Room.** Bette Mankins and Cyndee Rohla, the dinner co-chairmen, have been meeting with their sub-committees to work out details for the dinner, the program and the decorations. This is your opportunity to volunteer to help with this exciting event. **WE NEED YOU!** Watch the Sunday bulletins for announcements of committee meetings, for the time and place of each one, or contact Bette at [bman6254@aol.com](mailto:bman6254@aol.com) or Cyndee at [m.rohla@yahoo.com](mailto:m.rohla@yahoo.com). And THANKS in advance for volunteering.