



HOPE, JOY AND LOVE RISING

Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande AUGUST 2022

CONGRATULATIONS, JULIA BURNS

What a joy it is to welcome Julia Burns into a new role under the title of:

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Julia grew up in Arroyo Grande and came up through our community as both a resident of the AG community and a member of this church. She had a great childhood and youth and was blessed to remain on the Central Coast in young adulthood. Growing up, she worked in her parents, Nancy and Chuck Burns' store, Burnardo's Ice Cream, in the Village.

Julia has served as our Chancel Choir Director for 13 years. She studied voice, piano and flute for over 40 years. In 2008 she began her career as a choral director, stepping out of the choir she loved and sang with for over 30 years, to become our chancel choir director following *Jamie Foster (with a short-interim employee in between)*.

Julia truly felt a calling to step up, grow into the position and lead our chancel choir and this has been great for the church. Julia loves God, follows Jesus, knows music and her leadership is filled with lovingkindness,



spirit-led direction, and expertise. Her presence among us is a blessing.

Julia has studied under Dr. Gary Bonner (formerly of Cal Baptist University) who instilled the connection of voices and love to make beautiful music. *"It's all about the connection between director and singers."* And Julia knows how to extend that meaning for us as with Julia it is also *"all about the connection between the choir and our congregation"* as the choir leads us in worship.

Our choir is made up of 23-28 multi-generational singers, and our church established over 130 years ago has always had a strong choir. Along with rehearsing and singing in church every Sunday from Sept - June, there have been festivals and travels along the way, and we are grateful that, in 2019, Julia opened the door for the choir to travel to Carnegie Hall to sing praise to God along with other singers under the direction of Mark Hayes. We look forward to expanding our music ministry, to ministering to children and youth through music, to welcoming in newcomers for whom music is a top priority in choosing a church, and to creating new opportunities for the congregation and community to enjoy music.

Rev. Mary Binglehart's

ACTING

Thank you all for your generous support of our congregation this past fiscal year! Tithes and offerings were up \$3K (12%) from plan and from last year. Holiday and loose plate offerings were down and other income were both below plan. Overall expenses were below plan due to delays in hiring and less than planned spending by most teams. This left us with a \$37K surplus for the fiscal year, which we transferred to our reserve fund. Like Joseph instructed Pharoah we set aside our surplus during the good years so we can survive the bad years. Our reserves were completely drained a few years ago during a financial downturn at our church and we are now slowly building them back up.

In June we announced we are not doing a pledge drive this year. And guess what. Over \$15,000 of tithes and offerings came in that week, almost three times the weekly average. We have a generous congregation! A number of people have told me they will increase their regular tithes and offerings. This is needed as our expenses are going up this next year. Staff-Parish gave 5% raises to all our staff effective July 1. In addition, they have announced a promotion for one staff member. We still have positions to fill, including Sound Technician and Publicity Director. Utilities and other expenses are also expected to increase next year. If everyone continues giving at their existing level, and if possible, increase, giving, we will successfully move through this next fiscal year.

In addition to the regular giving that supports our local church activities, we raised almost \$14K in second mile giving, including over \$3K for Ukrainian relief, over \$3K for People's Kitchen and Food Bank, \$1K for Tonga Relief.

Thank you for your continued generous support of our church and its missions.

Joel Anderson

Acting Treasurer

ARROYO GRANDE UMC	FY 21-22	FY 21-22	FY 21-22		FY20-21	
INCOME	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% CHANGE		ACTUAL	% CHANGE
TITHES & OFFERINGS	\$321,321	\$286,080	12.3%		\$286,074	12.3%
HOLIDAY & LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$11,938	\$16,200	-26.3%		\$13,615	-12.3%
TOTAL STEWARDSHIP	\$333,259	\$302,280	10.2%		\$299,689	11.2%
OTHER INCOME	\$13,302	\$15,300	-13.1%		\$8,233	61.6%
TOTAL INCOME	\$346,561	\$317,580	9.1%		\$307,922	12.5%
EXPENSES						
LOCAL MINISTRY & PASTOR	\$139,929	\$135,475	3.3%		\$127,535	9.7%
APPORTIONMENTS	\$26,187	\$27,996	-6.5%		\$25,384	3.2%
OPERATIONS	\$227,522	\$229,571	-0.9%		\$215,734	5.5%
STAFF SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$82,005	\$88,009	-6.8%		\$75,002	9.3%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$309,527	\$317,580	-2.5%		\$290,736	6.5%
SURPLUS	\$37,034	\$0			\$17,186	115.5%



**WORSHIP
LITURGISTS**



AUGUST 7

8:30 a.m.—Joseph Brown
10:30 a.m.—Rose Ann Steiner

AUGUST 14

8:30 a.m.—Mary Thronson
10:30 a.m.—BG Perrigey

AUGUST 21

8:30 a.m.—Lucy Jacob
10:30 a.m.—Judy Leonard

AUGUST 28

8:30 a.m.—Elwood Hyden
10:30 a.m.—Priscilla Alquist

submitted by Jan Treat

Ushers are needed for Worship Services

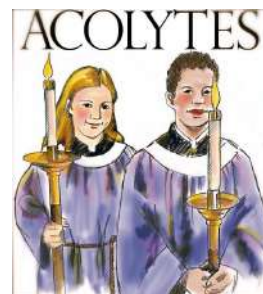


at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.! Training is offered for new or returning ushers. This is another way to extend your discipleship and support our church.

Call or talk with Kerren Brown at church for more information. See church directory for contact information.

submitted by Kerren Brown

Hey, all you kids ages 8 to 18!



If you would like to serve your Church as an Acolyte, call Lorie Ford or see Lorie at Church.

District Covenant Prayer List

from DS Rev. Melissa Mackinnon

Prayer Week	Church/Ministry	Clergy Leader(s)
August 7	Tujunga UMC	Pastor Thomas Kendall Sr.
August 7	Quartz Hill-Christ Our Savior	Pastor Thomas Kendall Sr.
August 14	Camarillo UMC	Pastor Elbert Kim
August 14	Valencia UMC	Pastors Andy & Camille Mattick
August 21	Friendly Valley Community UMC	Pastor Stephen Meadors
August 21	Malibu UMC	Pastor Erin Stenberg
August 28	Immanuel UMC of Los Angeles	Pastor Sangman Shin
August 28	University UMC of Goleta	Pastor Frank Schaefer



Paul Holden, UMM President

The United Methodist Men are pleased to say that our bank account has increased from \$200 to \$1,900 over the past two years due to the success of the pancake breakfast, taco bar and barbecue events.

To this end, we have voted to match the ELT Scholarship's committee grants of \$750 scholarships to Collin Odom and to Chloe Keith as they continue their higher education goals.

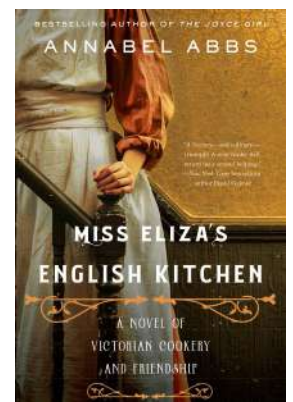
Thank you Church and Blessings,

United Methodist Men



UMF BOOK CLUB MEETS ON AUGUST 19TH

If you have an interest in the origin of cookbooks or the friendship of two English ladies, you might want to read our August book, Miss Eliza's English Kitchen: A Novel of Victorian Cookery and Friendship by Annabel Abbs. Her publisher insists that Eliza, a poet who knows nothing about recipes or cooking, must write a cookery book. Based on a true story of the first modern cookbook writer, this novel portrays the challenges that Eliza Acton encounters in the unfamiliar culinary area in Victorian London, England. Along the way she enlists the assistance of a young women who shares a troubled friendship with her. Copies of the book are available from the church office. Please join our book club meeting on Friday, August 19, 2022 at 10:30 A.M. in the church library. See Patti Melsheimer with any questions.



submitted by Judy Leonard



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education, so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

The UWF Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo was attended by a small group on July 16 and was thoroughly enjoyed by those participating, and especially by those seated at one particular table. Ask Dave Bolterman about the winning table.



August 13 church picnic is canceled

At the beginning of the year, we were both hopeful and optimistic that the Covid outbreak was on its way to improvement. So to celebrate, we thought this August would be a good time for a picnic. However, because of the current peak in Covid and variants we are postponing the All Church Picnic. It was decided that it would be nearly impossible to control social distancing and food safety outdoors in the park.

We take seriously to the health of our congregation. Stay tuned for the return of this favorite event.

Calling all crafters

On July 7 we had our first craft workshop of the year, which was attended by a good size group. We made cards for the up-coming Boutique, which will be held November 4th and 5th (Friday and Saturday).



Susan Thronson taught us how to make some great cards with supplies we provided. Even if you don't consider yourself crafty, come and let us show you some easy projects. We need you! We have all the supplies! We just need your help. Thank you, Susan, for getting us started.

Our next project will be on Thursday, August 4, which is decals and decoupage. We also encourage you to stop by and see what's happening on Tuesday at Sew and Sews. These groups all meet in the McMillen Room.

submitted by Gerry McGuire, UWF President

Dates to Remember

- ✓ August 4, Craft Day, Decals & decoupage
- ✓ September 10 Women's' Retreat at the Melsheimers Home
- ✓ October 1 Birthday Gala

Program Ministry

submitted by Sandy Underwood

Blessed Assurance – As we head into another COVID strain surge Program Ministry wants to assure our church family we take health and safety into consideration for activities planned. Outside activities are most often safe without a mask, like the walks and our more recent posted event at the Clark Ranch. Some activities need to be planned two months out. The August 20th PROGRESSIVE DINNER will be hosted at church members homes in groups of ten (10) people. Attendees will drive from one home to another carpooling for each of four courses ending up at church. All of these details will be provided to you on August 20th. If there is a concern about COVID, there are back up plans and the event may be postponed.

SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST

- Quilt Classes by Gerry McGuire continue on Monday, August 1st; \$5 per session. See bulletin.
- United Women of Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) is partnering with Program Ministry to do crafts for the Boutique. Thursday, August 4th from 10-12 is the time for this fun creative event.
- Avila Dog Beach on Friday, August 5th, dogs not necessary to have fun at the beach. Meet at Avila Dog Beach at 9:30 AM.
- The Clark Ranch will host an event on Tuesday, August 9th 10:30-12:30; demonstration on saddling, horse riding and horse care. Learn about various kinds of horses. Plenty of ranch activities.
- Progressive Dinner is Saturday, August 20, meeting at church at 4:30 PM and begin with appetizers, then off to next home in groups of 8-10 folks for salad, to next home for main course (lasagna), and home to church for dessert. Carpooling necessary. \$15 per person.
- The next Movie Night is actually **Sunday, July 31**, The Winning Team and Red Skelton Hour. Come join us in Criswell Hall at 4:00 PM.

COMING UP

- Clarks have confirmed the Barn Dance for Saturday, September 17
- Movie for Sunday, September 25 is Father Stu
- Marjorie Ott has agreed to a cooking class in October



Updating Membership Roster

In my new role as Membership Secretary, I have been charged to work with Kerren Brown, chair of Membership Care, to update the Membership Roster. This is an important first step in preparing to officially remove those names of members who have passed away, moved, transferred, or no longer wish to attend. We have begun talking with members to help track down those we haven't seen for awhile and those for whom we may not have current contact information. Patti Melsheimer has sat in on our meetings and helped us as we have discussed all 233 names on our roster of members. Sandy Underwood, Lorie Ford, Jan Treat, Judy Atwood and other long time members have been very helpful in these efforts. This is a long, ongoing process and requires reaching out via mail, telephone or visitation. We will encourage members to come back and join us in worship and/or update us with current contact information and their wishes about their membership. The goal is to complete this phase of the project by late Fall, in time to update the annual church report to charge conference at year-end. We appreciate all the help we have received from our current members, as this is a rather daunting but important task! Please feel free to call us with any contact information that you think might be helpful. Thank you!!

*submitted by Priscilla Alquist
Membership Secretary*

Carina Avila

Carina is a professional dancer and is starting rehearsals in August for a fall tour of the United States and Canada in "Aladdin"!

Not only does Carina dance but she has been active in this church as an acolyte, in the kids' bell choir, youth group, and is also a former recipient of an ELT Scholarship.

Carina is the daughter of Ed and Rebeca Avila who are in the chancel choir and handbell choir.

This photo of Carina is from a photoshoot in In New York City!



A brief report of the CAL-PAC Annual Conference in June through photographs taken by FUMCAG Delegate, Mary Hawkins



Bishop Grant J. Hagiya welcoming everyone to the opening events.



New clergy who were ordained during Covid 2020, 2021 are recognized.



One of this year's newly ordained.

News from the Mission Team

by Judy Atwood, chair

MISSION TEAM: August 2022

Judy Atwood

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

Reflection this month comes from Florence Mefor.

Florence is our new covenant missionary assigned to Mutambara Mission Hospital in Zimbabwe. She is utilizing her skills as a nurse mid-wife.

They are praising God for the new Land Cruiser Ambulance from the UNOPS department. UNOPS is a unit of the United Nations working with the World Health Organization to assist that section of Zimbabwe affected by the Cyclone Idai in 2019. She says it was a God answered prayer as they had been asking for a second ambulance to accommodate the issue of patients needing transfer while their other ambulance had yet to return from transferring a previous patient. The other ambulance had multiple challenges to keep it running. It required a new gear box (about \$7,000) to get it running again.

Programs for Pregnant women and the Waiting Mothers Home are going well thanks to your support and support from the Norway United Methodist Church. "We thank God for using you to provide food for these women," Florence Mefor tells us. Some of the women have no clothes for their babies. Recently a grandmother came asking for assistance for her grandchild whose mother died during the child's delivery. She needed clothes for the four-month-old baby she was carrying on her back. Florence said they were able to provide her with clothing for the child. She also was supplied with four tins of milk formula to feed the baby.

Support received for pregnant women from you and from other sources has been tremendous. Attempts to sustain themselves include farming and poultry projects which have taken off, but on a low scale. Plans to kick off a piggery project is expected to materialize shortly. Support for other hospital projects, like maintenance and clinical needs, are all appreciated. We thank you so much.

SCHOOL SUPPLY NEEDS:

School will be starting again soon and supplies are on sale now for the next school year. We want to help to help our Pre-School be ready for another year, so we are collecting items that our teachers need. A list is on the table in the narthex. We will also have a container for financial giving if you prefer to share in that way. Thanks in advance.





So, my challenge to myself and others who wish to join me, continue to be who you are and be willing to take time to help make a change in the life of others.



**A THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION.
DON'T ASK GOD TO GUIDE YOUR FOOTSTEPS,
IF YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO MOVE YOUR FEET.**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR</p> <p>11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH</p> <p>10:00 Program Ministry Committee—L</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>10 AM Boutique Crafting—MMR</p> <p>11:00 AM Finance -PS</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 AM Meet at Avila Dog Beach for walk Sign up Program Min list</p>	<p>6</p> 
<p>7</p> <p>9th Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>8:30 AM Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM Traditional Service</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH</p> <p>1:00 Mission Team—MMR</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR</p> <p>10:30 AM Clark Ranch Event-Program Ministry</p> <p>11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH</p> <p>10:00 AM Trustees Monthly Meeting—CH</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>10th Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>8:30 AM Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM Traditional Service</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR</p> <p>11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH</p> <p>10:00 AM UWF Steering Comm-L</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>10:30 AM SPRC Meeting—CH</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:30 AM UWF Book Club—L</p> <p>AGUMCC Monthly Board Meeting—MMR Open—1 PM Closed—2 PM</p>	<p>20</p> <p>4:30 PM Meet at church for Progressive Dinner.-Program Ministry</p>
<p>21</p> <p>11th Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>8:30 AM Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM Traditional Service</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR</p> <p>11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH</p> <p>10:00 AM Mary Martha Esther—MMR</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>12th Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>8:30 AM Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM Traditional Service</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>11:15 Leave to take food to People's Kitchen</p> <p>10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR</p> <p>11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:30 AM Senior Exercise—CH</p> <p>9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH</p>	<p>Abbreviation Legend</p> <p>CH—Criswell Hall S-Sanctuary K—Kitchen L—Library Room #123 MMR—McMillen Room #113 PL—Parking Lot PS—Pastor's Study HR—Handbell Room #115</p>		



Meet Our CHURCH STAFF

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Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler

Handbell Choir Director.:

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PLEASE NOTE:

Layout Editor reserves the right to cut and edit articles to meet space limitations.

Join us for summer church services in your casual, comfortable attire!



WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP?

There are dates available for Sunday morning flower dedications in upcoming months. Contact the church office.

Your floral tribute will be placed on the altar for both services on Sunday and recorded in the video for that week. After the services you can pick up the arrangement or we will get it to you.



Please note that due to the higher cost of fresh flowers, the new cost for altar flowers is \$30.

Orders can be made from the Grand Bouquet which we will do upon your request. Orders can also be placed to have Brad Bettencourt create an arrangement using Trader Joe's flowers for the arrangement.

Please contact Frances in the Church Office. She is the liaison with both Grand Bouquet and Brad Bettencourt.



Tina Moore.....8/01

Priscilla Alquist.....8/02

Jacqueline Ridge.....8/02

William Bauske.....8/03

Rosslyn Clauson.....8/04

Fern Farmer.....8/06

Patty Williams.....8/07

Nancy St. Laurent.....8/08

Gerry McGuire.....8/10

Frank Ridge.....8/10

John MacKeen.....8/12

Bill Gerrish.....8/13

Robert Underwood.....8/15

Nancy Gerrish.....8/17

Betty Stephens.....8/17

Carol Gary.....8/19

Nancy Burns.....8/20

Dorine Bolterman.....8/22

Joseph Brown.....8/23

Frank Williams.....8/23

Cristy Van Hook.....8/24

Niki Raetz.....8/26

Sharon Roemer.....8/27

Charles Burns.....8/28

Peter Paredes.....8/28

Cecile Huggins.....8/30

Wyatt Russell.....8/31





First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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2022

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Children's Center Chronicle

JULY 24, 2022 DODGERS 7 RAMS 2

FUMCAG
FANS
WERE AT
THE
DODGERS
GAME!

Sandy, Bernie,
Cristy, Judy,
Del & Paul
drove by van to
the stadium to
attend the
game, through
Program
Ministry.

