



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

275 North Halcyon Road . Arroyo Grande . CA 93420 (805) 481-2692

"This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24

Welcome to our 8:30 AM worship service. Today is December 9th, 2012 – Second Sunday of Advent

Nursery Care is available * Elementary aged children are dismissed during worship * Ask about our hearing devices. Praise and worship is led by The Lord's Crew.



Welcome and News of the Church

Opening Praise What A Mighty God We Serve!

† Scripture Reading Isaiah 9: 6 – 7 In Unison

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

† Opening Prayer Pastor David

Lighting of the Advent Candle Mike & Connie Clark

One: The unbreakable gift for this second Sunday of Advent is the gift of LOVE.

Light the first and second candle

ALL: Dear God, thank you for the gift of love. May we share this gift with others and learn how to love unconditionally. Help us practice love in action with family, friends, and strangers during this Christmas season. Amen.

Praise To Bethlehem We Go
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Spirit Song

Prayer of Adoration

Susan Coho

*** Children are dismissed at this time to their Sunday School class.*

We Worship in Giving

Offertory

The Holly and The Ivy

Don Gugeler, clarinet

Joys and Concerns with Prayers and Thanksgiving

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor David

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 8 – 20

Mike Herber

Message

Christmas Gifts That Don't Break: The Gift of Love
Pastor David M. Burgeson

Communion Scripture

I Corinthians 11:23-26

In Unison

Communion Song

Lord I Want To Be A Christian

Benediction Song

The Lord Bless Thee

Pastor David

Recessional

Come The New Jerusalem

** * Please feel free to stay to enjoy the closing music to enhance your worship today.*

If you are visiting with us, we are so pleased to share this time of worship with you.

Your presence is a blessing to us, as we pray it is for you.

We invite you to join in a time of fellowship in Criswell Hall to enjoy some coffee and goodies after the service – we would like to get to know you.



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Welcome and News of the Church Pastor David

Prelude Hush Bambino (R. Summers)

Introit Candle of Peace – Janice Moore, Ann Smith, Kristy Aston

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Bob Pierson, George & Lynn Stewart

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Light the first and second candle

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but do not want those beliefs to demand a change in our behavior. We are inspired by brilliant stars, angelic songs, and the magi’s gifts, but are not interested in the risky business of sharing the good news. Our lives are cluttered with parties, packages and pageantry, and in the midst of it all, we have misplaced the truth of the Incarnation – that you have come to be with us, to know us and be known by us; to dwell not just with us but within us for the sake of all creation and the world. Forgive us, precious Son of God, we pray and restore to us the joy of being yours. Amen.

Words of Assurance Judy Leonard

One: How blessed we are to have a High Priest who understands our weakness, hears our prayers and responds with mercy to our sincere confession. Friends, receive the good news that in Jesus Christ you are forgiven! Amen.

Choral Anthem For Unto Us A Child Is Born Chancel Choir

Joys and Concerns with Prayers and Thanksgiving

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Prayer for the Giving and Receiving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory The Cradle (A. Gretchaninov)

† Doxology

Scripture Reading Luke 2: 8 – 20 Judy Leonard

One: This is the word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Message Christmas Gifts That Don’t Break: The Gift of Love
Pastor David M. Burgeson

† Closing Hymn No. 230 O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1 & 3 only)

† Benediction and Choral Response

Postlude Noel: “Une Vierge Pucelle” (N. Le Begue)

† Call to Worship

One: Make ready a pathway for our God.

Many: Clean out the debris in our hearts and our closets.

One: Clear out a space in our calendars.

Many: Put aside any sense of unworthiness.

One: And focus on the One who comes to love us.

Many: Prepare a place in our homes and hearts.

One: Set the table and light the candles,

ALL: For Christ is coming.

† Opening Hymn No. 238 Angels We Have Heard On High (verses 1 & 3 only)

Children’s Moment Judy Atwood

Prayer of Confession Judy Leonard

One: Please join me in our prayer of confession:

Many: Loving and Merciful God, as we await the coming of Jesus, we confess that we do so with divided loyalties, scattered attention and idolatrous hearts. We want to welcome a baby but not surrender control of our lives to a Lord who expects our allegiance. We like the idea of having something and someone to believe in

Please Lift-up These in Recent Need of Prayer – 9 December 2012

- Health and healing for those in our church family who are ill.
- Comfort for the families of those who have gone on to be with the Lord.
- The financial welfare and stewardship of our church and its members.
- Victims and the recovery efforts after recent Hurricane Sandy.
- Prayers for the Middle East.
- Doris Douglas' brother-in-law passed away. Prayers for the family.
- A friend of the 'Women of Prayer', Cindy, whose father-in-law passed away.
- Ed Avila and family with the passing of Ed's aunt.
- Carolyn Russell's sister (Luella) will have a hip replacement.
- Kay Walker fell and fractured her wrist.
- Delores (friend of Kerren Brown) will undergo radiation therapy.
- Chuck Buckton had a back procedure and is home recovering. Prayers for speedy recovery.
- Pat Wood, Sally Weitkamp's, sister broke her femur and will need a second surgery.
- Ruth Rohla was in ER on Thursday and underwent test.

Praise! Thanks be to God for His Goodness.

- Thank you to all for the well wishes for Pastor David's birthday last week.

Our Covenant Missionary: Frido Kinkolenge (Liberia)

Cal-Pac Missionaries in the Field: Julie & David Elmore (Alaska), John Elmore (Chile), Lorene & David Persons (Congo), Muriel & Terry Henderson (Mexico).

We Remember in Prayer: Our pastor and his family; our church family and friends; the youth and children's ministries of this church; our church leaders; those in service to God around the world; those who are hungry, displaced, sick or in poverty because of these and other natural and human-made disasters, and for the workers who minister with them; for God's peace and justice for the world; our nation's current and future leaders; God's peace and salvation for the world through Jesus Christ; those serving in the military and their families.

Continue to Prayer for: Gladys Paulsen, Kent Brown, the Smiths, the Hammonds, Sean Lehman, Fenton McClure, the Bucktons, Sheila Owine, Todd Everett, Ken Coombs, Isabella Sloan, the Noltes, Ayleen Melsheimer, the Alsums, Les Bradley, Sharon Woodcock, the Williamsons, Mike Douglas, Richard Gainer, Adam Gainer, Beverly Calkins, Wil Ogden, the Gandys, Tom Egan, Virginia Mothes, Cristy Eichelberger.

Those In Care Facilities: Bob Atwood, Bob Serby, Inez Kenneaster, Wayne Frisby.

Our Shut-In Members: Doris Rice, Ruby Weddell, Yvonne Holt, Madge Young, Elvon Houlding, Jeanne Jenkins, Donna Truman, Esther Miller, Harold Bailey.

Prayer Calendar – Please continue to lift up the global United Methodist Church

Dec. 9: Wesley Community Center, Houston, Texas; **Dec. 10:** International Human Rights Day;

Dec. 11: GROOTS Kenya: Home based care for persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families, Nairobi Kenya; **Dec. 12:** Methodist Church in India: Computer education, Belgaur, India; **Dec.**

13: Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas, Women for Paradise: Community outreach, Kingston, Jamaica; **Dec. 14:** World Student Christian Federation Middle East Region: Youth leadership and human rights education, Beirut, Lebanon; **Dec. 15:** Bidwell Riverside

Center: Des Moines, Iowa



December 9, 2012

Please feel free to use this space to take notes.

Join with Pastor David as he shares today's message entitled,

Christmas Gifts That Don't Break: The Gift of Love

Luke 2: 8 - 20



The Bulletin Board

9 December 2012

A full event calendar on our website at worshipweekly.com – check it out!

Coffee & Fellowship Hour – Many thanks to our **Library** team and **Mary- Martha Circle**. Hosting next week will be the **Christian Education Team**. *Watch for the 2013 calendar!*

Flowers on the Altar - “Susan, Happy 40th Birthday from Mom & Dad”

On Today’s Schedule:

- **Christian Education Meeting** – 11:45 AM in the McMillen Room.
- “How To Study the Bible” - 6 PM in the McMillen Room.

On This Week’s Agenda – Get out your calendar:

- **Sew n Sews Quilting Group** – Tuesday at 9 AM in the McMillen Room.
- **Senior Exercise** – Tues., Wed., Thurs. at 8:30 AM in Criswell Hall.
- **Handbell Choir Rehearsal** – Tues. & Thurs. at 5 PM in the Handbell Room.
- **UMW Steering Committee** – 10 AM in Library.
- **Endowment Board**– 12/11 at 2 PM in the McMillen Room.
- **People’s Kitchen** – 12/13 _ Christmas Party for the Homeless – 11:30 AM.
- **Esther Circle** – 12/13 at noon at the home of Carleen Minkler for a potluck lunch.
- **AG UM Children’s Center Holiday Program** – 12/13 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary.
- **All-Church Work Day** – Wednesday at 9 AM.
- **Weekly Fellowship Dinner** – FREE! Wednesday at 5:15 PM in the McMillen Room.
- **Pastor’s Advent Bible Study** – Wednesday at 6 PM in the McMillen Room.
- **Kid’s Night Out** – Wednesday at 6 PM in room 211.
- **Youth Group** – Wednesday at 7 PM in the youth lounge.
- **Chancel Choir Rehearsal** – Wednesday at 7 PM in the Sanctuary.
- **Morning Bible Study** – Friday at 8:30 AM in the Library.
- **Christmas Musical Jubilee** – 12/14 at 6 PM in Criswell Hall – bring a friend.
- **UMM Breakfast** – 12/15 at 8:30 AM in Criswell Hall.

Christmas Gifts That Don’t Break – An All-Church Advent Sermon Series & Study

What are the Christmas gifts that won’t break? Find out in this all-church series which will focus on four gifts that also coincide with the four outer candles of the traditional Advent wreath: **Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace**. Join us on the **Sundays of Advent** as Pastor David helps us prepare for the birth of Christ and go deeper into the Gifts That Don’t Break on **Wednesdays** at 6 PM in the McMillen Room for Adults; kids meet at 6 PM in Criswell Hall; youth group will study in the youth lounge at 7 PM. Don’t miss this special study to prepare us for the coming Christ.

See’s Candy for the Holidays - **Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children’s Center** is selling candy to raise money for the teachers to attend the annual California Association for the Education of Young Children Conference. **See Ms. Maddy in Criswell Hall after the services.**

The Five Cities Christian Women Emergency Food Ministry monthly luncheon will be Monday, **December 10 at noon** at St. Barnabas Church (301 Trinity in AG). There will be a Christmas carol sing-a-long with the **Joy Singers**. Bring a dish to share and your own tableware. Also, bring a non-perishable item for the pantry. There is no charge.

The Giving Tree is HERE! Adorned with ornament tags, this tree has over 60 opportunities for you purchase a gift named for a foster child. Again with two tags on the tree, we ask you to take the original tag with you to label the UN-WRAPPED gift. Leave the duplicate on the tree and write your name on it. Return gift WITH tag by 12/17.

LAST CHANCE For Gifts for People’s Kitchen Christmas Party for the Homeless

This week will be the last chance to donate small, wrapped gifts for Santa to hand out on Thursday, **the 13th** at People’s Kitchen. Approximately 250 people are expected - many of them families with small children. Gifts can be practical – i.e., gloves/scarves, toiletries, local gift cards, etc. Please wrap designated for man, women or child and bring to church by 12/12.

Arroyo Grande UM Children’s Center Holiday Program - December 13th at 7 PM. This 25 minute program reflects the traditions of the children, their families, and our staff. Admission: a non-perishable food item (*Five Cities Christian Women’s Food Ministry*).

Christmas Musical Jubilee is Something New - A brand new Christmas program, sponsored by the Methodist Men will take place on **December 14th** in Criswell Hall from **6-9pm for a great time of** dancing, group sing-a-long, and some seasonal solos and a spread of refreshments - all **FREE!** Childcare is available upon request. *Don’t miss this - Bring a friend!*

UMM Meeting Will Go Solar on December 15TH The next meeting of the UMM will be held in Criswell Hall 12/15 at 8:30 AM. We will be serving ham and scrambled eggs, sweet rolls, hash browns and tropical fruit salad (\$9). Speaker: Dawn Legg from Topez Solar Farm.

Five Cities Christian Women - Holiday Food Baskets – *Set-up and Distribution is scheduled for the week of 12/17/2012!* Please bring non-perishables to the basket in the sanctuary – a listing of the needed items is available in the church newsletter. Thanks!

Begin the New Year Right There are many ways to read through the Bible, and many different time frames in which to do it. What if we as a church and as individuals covenanted to spend about an hour each day – that’s about 16 chapters (six turns of the page), and read the entire Bible, cover to cover in 90 days? *Many of us make New Year’s resolutions – some of those goals are spiritual.* **So here’s the plan:** On Sunday, January 6th we will kick off ways to be accountable and to support each other. Sunday between services, Sunday Sermons and our Wednesday nights will all be centered on this important business. We will be done by March 31st so when Easter hits, we will have read the Bible in its entirety, and have accomplished several of those resolutions we made on New Year’s Eve! **Let’s do it!**