

***“Know Christ, Grow in Christ, Go—Share Christ.”***

# Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

MARCH 2018



**PALM SUNDAY—March 25, 2018**  
**“GOD LOVES YOU: CELEBRATE”**  
Mark 11:1-11

The Celebration of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem marks the beginning of Holy Week as we gather in worship. Some congregations celebrate this as Palm/Passion Sunday. Others, like us, celebrate this as Palm Sunday with additional worship opportunities during Holy Week.

There will be two worship services as usual at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Come celebrate worship and celebrate with us.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY—March 29, 2018**  
**The Last Supper and Ritual of Tenebrae**  
6:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary

Remembering the last days of the earth journey of our Lord, we gather in worship on Maundy Thursday for a reading of the Passion Narrative from the gospel with the Ritual of Tenebrae.

One by one candles will be extinguished as we listen to the story of Jesus entering the darkness of betrayal, violence and crucifixion as his life is taken away.



**EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 1, 2018**  
**8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP**  
**“I WILL RISE”**  
Mark 16:1-8  
Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

Celebrate the  
resurrection of  
our Lord!

*Happy*  
EASTER



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



## *From the Pastor*

The Easter Miracle!

Sometimes life catches up with me. Inwardly running full speed ahead, some stark reality breaks in and through and I find myself pondering imponderables---issues of life and living, and death and dying to which there are no clear answers.

I opened a box on my desk in which are housed memorial bulletins from funerals and memorials I've conducted since 1984. There are well over 600, since most of the time it's been 15-30 a year and it's been 34 years. I think of each precious person and I am overwhelmed, and I long for Easter!

I am titling the Easter sermon "I WILL RISE!" from Chris Tomlin's song of the same title:

***There's a peace I've come to know though my heart and flesh may fail,  
There's an anchor for my soul, I can say "It is well".  
Jesus has overcome and the grave is overwhelmed  
The victory is won, He is risen from the dead.***

***And I will rise when He calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain  
I will rise on eagles' wings, before my God fall on my knees and rise,  
I will rise.***

***There's a day that's drawing near when this darkness breaks to light  
And the shadows disappear, and my faith shall be my eyes.  
Jesus has overcome, and the grave is overwhelmed  
The victory is won, He is risen from the dead.***

***And I will rise when He calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain  
I will rise on eagles' wings, before my God fall on my knees and rise,  
I will rise***

Truly, the grave is overwhelmed by the Easter miracle. We are not April Fools! We are the disciples of Jesus Christ who follow Him into the future that God has both promised and prepared for us. Thanks be to God.

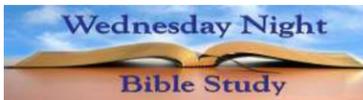
Easter Blessings!

Rev. Mary Birgelaitis



**Mondays at 7 PM**

Women come to pray together in the Sanctuary.



**Adult Bible Study at 5:45 PM**  
**FREE Fellowship Meal at 5 PM**



**Fridays at 8:30 AM**

Join us in the Library for Bible Study, discussion, coffee, & friends!



Dates	Topics and Schedule
Sunday, March 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis GOD LOVES YOU: Trust</li> </ul>
Wednesday, March 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:45 PM Adult Bible Study THE CREED: <u>What Christians Believe and Why</u> by Adam Hamilton Session 3 of 6: Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent</li> </ul>
Sunday, March 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis GOD LOVES YOU: Act</li> </ul>
Wednesday, March 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:45 PM Adult Bible Study THE CREED: <u>What Christians Believe and Why</u> by Adam Hamilton Session 4 of 6: Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent</li> </ul>
Sunday, March 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis GOD LOVES YOU: Believe</li> </ul>
Wednesday, March 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:45 PM Adult Bible Study THE CREED: <u>What Christians Believe and Why</u> by Adam Hamilton Session 5 of 6: Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent</li> </ul>
Sunday, March 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM Worship Services Sermon by Rev. Mary Birgelaitis GOD LOVES YOU: Celebrate</li> </ul>
Wednesday, March 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:45 PM Adult Bible Study THE CREED: <u>What Christians Believe and Why</u> by Adam Hamilton Session 6 of 6: Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent</li> </ul>

**MARCH LITURGISTS**

**MARCH 4**

8:30 a.m.—*Sharon Roemer*  
10:30 a.m.—*B.G. Perrigey*

**MARCH 11**

8:30 a.m.—*David Beard*  
10:30 a.m.—*Judy Leonard*

**MARCH 18**

8:30 a.m.—*Susan Thronson*  
10:30 a.m.—*Barbara Reinecke*

**MARCH 25**

8:30 a.m.—*Joseph Brown*  
10:30 a.m.—*Virginia Mothes*

**LENTEN WEDNESDAY CLASSES**

February 21<sup>st</sup> – March 28<sup>th</sup> - Lent

**THE CREED:**

What Christians Believe and Why

by Adam Hamilton, *facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent*

Sometimes questions are complicated, and answers are difficult to see. How do we discover the truths that give meaning and purpose to life?

Powerful answers are contained in the Apostles' Creed, an early statement of foundational Christian beliefs.

In this book, Hamilton considers questions of life, reality, and truth. He explores what Christians believe, why they believe it and why it matters.

Chapters: God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of Sins, the Resurrection of the Body.



## REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*The Latest from the Trustees—*

**February 13, 2018**

**Paul Holden, President**

The Sanctuary was taking an extraordinarily long time to heat up (nearly 3 hours). We found that the old ducting system under the Church was shot. We looked into sending the heat directly into the Church through the wall separating the Sanctuary and the furnace room. We went out for quotes and received two back. The one from Wighton's was very high at \$9,000. The other from Renco (Steve) was for under \$1,000 if we could cut the holes. We cut the holes (thank you, Bernie!) and the job came in under \$700 and the Sanctuary now heats up in under 1 hour. You may want to notice the three new heating vents near the rear of the Church that create this great efficiency.

The large commercial refrigerator in the kitchen started running warm again. We had CalCoast come in to repair it. They fixed the leak but found a problem with a coil. The unit is no longer manufactured, and the part would have to be made. They quoted us a cost of nearly \$1,000. We opted to go new. We found Sears had refrigerator-only units marked down from \$800 to \$500 so we ordered two with delivery, and paid extra for a 5 year replacement warranty plan for each. They are now up and running.

Mary Hawkins and others will soon meet with Executive Janitorial for a walk-through on what we need to see gets done in the future.

Since the new gas line does not reach over to the office area; we will be investigating an electric heating solution for Pastor Mary and Frances. Our solar power plant should be able to accommodate it at no additional utility cost.



Val McClure, publicity

### UMM SWEETHEART BREAKFAST

Some 30 members of our church gathered in Criswell Hall on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> to enjoy the Valentine decorations, beautiful free roses and candy, in addition to a fine breakfast prepared by Tina Moore. Music was performed before and during the event by the magic hands of Dennis Eiler. Later in the program Don Gugeler introduced a new quartet which sang a number of old time love songs to the delight of the listening audience. The party ended with a fun game of "Simon Says", with the winners finding hidden hearts and awarded with small boxes of candy.

Everyone who attended said they had a great time. Plan on attending next Valentines Day and join in the fun!



### UMM BREAKFAST MEETING — MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>

Surprise, Surprise! One of our own will be the honored speaker at the March 17<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Meeting at Coco's Restaurant at 9:00 a.m. Tina Moore will speak on the California Conservation Corps. and will introduce her boss in the organization, Genevie Agustinez. The CCC is a work development program formed on July 7, 1976 by the State of California specifically for California men and women between the ages of 18 and 25 (up to 29 for veterans). Attend the meeting and let Tina and Genevie bring you up to date.



**United  
Methodist  
Women**

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION in the global ministries of the church."

"The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation

Virginia Mothes, Publicity

## UMW for 2018

The first event for the United Methodist Women was to start off 2018 with their Annual Super Chili Bowl Sunday, accompanied with cornbread and cookies. It's always a treat to have this meal taken care of so everyone can relax and enjoy the game stress-free.

United Methodist Women celebrated their UWM Sunday on February 11<sup>th</sup> with the guest speaker, Judy Atwood. Judy shared with us her sermon entitled "Telling Our Story—A Legacy of Mission", which is her personal passion. Officers for 2018 were introduced and the program was followed by treats to share in Criswell Hall.

An interesting book was critiqued in the McMillen Room on February 23<sup>rd</sup> by the UMW Book Club. Hidden Figures is the history of black women mathematicians starting in the 1940's when men were engaged in World War II. After the war, the space age came into being following Russia's sending their "Sputnik" into space and America needing to be aggressive in catching up to them.



Starting March 8<sup>th</sup> and continuing each second and fourth Thursday until October 25<sup>th</sup>, between 9 AM and 1 PM, participants will engage in creating their own crafts or

learning new ones for our annual Holiday Boutique on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. No matter what your skill level is, please bring a sack lunch and enjoy the fellowship with other members.

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, United Methodist Women will present an always-delicious Mothers' Day luncheon. Bring a mother, grandmother, aunt, daughter, sister, or friend and join in for a good time with other caring ladies. Hope to see you there as it's always a great time of sharing.

A Silent Auction will be the event for July. Again, look for details as the year progresses.



A new event will occur on September 23<sup>rd</sup> when an all church picnic will be happening. Look for more information as planning continues.

And again, finishing our year with our annual Holiday Boutique, you'll find fantastic items to decorate your Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.



Happy 2018 to one and all.

Virginia Mothes

### **A Message from your new Lay Leader**

You may have some questions, as I did, as to what exactly is the Lay Leader's responsibility. Our outgoing Lay Leader, Judy Atwood, is a natural at leading and has done so much while she held this position. I, on the other hand, will have a lot of learning on the job to do!

In researching the role of lay leader I found that the lay leader has specific responsibilities including working with the pastor and other leaders "to launch or strengthen ministries that build discipleship"; advising the church council of opportunities available for a more effective ministry of the church through its laity in the community; meeting regularly with the pastor to discuss opportunities for ministry; serving on church council, the committee on finance, and the committee on pastor-parish

relations and being a member of annual conference; continuing involvement in study and training opportunities; and informing the laity of training opportunities provided by the annual conference.

The lay leader is the bridge – a connector between the laity of our congregation, the larger Church, and the community where our local church is located. I look forward to the challenges and hope that each of you will join me in working to accomplish the overall mission of the church – to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Blessings,

*Patti Melsheimer*



### *Caring Congregation Committee*

The Caring Congregation Committee is looking for additional members. We meet once a month after second service for no more than an hour. We send out get well cards, bereavement cards and specialty cards as needed to our members. We order, and have members deliver, flowers at Easter and Christmas to our shut-ins. Once a year we host a New Member Luncheon. This is in the planning stage for June of this year.

If you have an hour available after church once a month, please join us! We meet the second Sunday of the month, in the library.

If you have any questions please contact Judie Neufeld.

### 2017 Report from the Endowment Board

Distributions from Undesignated Funds—\$11,967  
—includes \$4,000 to feed the hungry

Distributions from Designated Funds—\$8,111  
—money transferred to/ Missions Committee for various domestic and global projects

Other Distributions from Designated Funds  
—\$2,500 for ELT Scholarships  
—\$2,300 from Wizemann Fund to feed the hungry

**Note: Donations to the Endowment Board are truly “Gifts that keep on Giving”. Please read the brochure in the “pockets” behind the pews for consideration.**

*submitted by Wayne Huggins*

### UMCOR SUNDAY IS MARCH 11<sup>th</sup>

This is the disaster relief arm of Global Ministries. If you remember:

- When hurricanes Harvey, Maria and Irma slammed Texas, Louisiana, Florida and Puerto Rico in 2017...
- When wildfires ravaged thousands of homes in the West and Southeast.....
- When refugees and migrants around the world needed help
- When a mudslide in Sierra Leone killed more than 500 people and destroyed 2,000 homes...

**UMCOR WAS THERE**

### ELT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ON-LINE

Everett Lee Taylor Scholarship applications will be available on-line ([www.worshipweekly.com](http://www.worshipweekly.com)) and in the church office beginning in March. The purpose of this scholarship is to help deserving United Methodist students enrolled in accredited universities, college, and technical schools defray the cost of their education.

Only students who are or have been active participants in the Arroyo Grande First United Methodist Church may apply. Graduating high school seniors must include letters of recommendation as well as a high school transcript with their completed applications. Returning college students will need a college transcript but are not required to submit letters of recommendation. Students may apply for this scholarship more than once provided they have maintained a minimum 2.5 GPA in their college work.

The completed application with required attachments must be turned in to the church office by May 15<sup>th</sup>. Scholarship recipients will be introduced to the congregation in early June.

Scholarship checks will be given to recipients upon proof of registration in Fall, 2018, college classes.

*Submitted by Judy Leonard*



### *Reflecting Upon Lent*

*Members and Friends of United Methodist Church, Arroyo Grande:*

*This letter from the Rev. James Powell, North District Superintendent, came on our church email a week or so ago. I set it aside to include in our Cast-A-Net newsletter during Lent. Thank you—Your editor*

Faithful Servants,

The season of Lent is upon us. This is a time to reflect on our limitations, frailties, and sinful/selfish ways. How counter cultural to consider that we are limited humans who make mistakes, and yet, precious in God's sight because of Jesus Christ's redemption.

The Christian Church thought it best to consider our shortcomings before we consider our freedom in the Spirit. Early Christianity asked the people of God to ponder on our mortal state of ashes and emptiness before we consider the fullness of God's resurrection into new life. As Paul emptied himself, and described himself as slave to Jesus Christ in Romans 1:1: "I, Paul, am a devoted slave of Jesus Christ on assignment, authorized as an apostle to proclaim God's words and acts." (Message Bible)

We often say that confession is good for the soul. Getting into the proper position before God is the beginning of new life, healing, and the restoration of wholeness. Out of the ashes comes new life and growth. Pastor Bethany Carpenter has developed a Lenten worship and studies series based on the writings of Rev. Dr. David Bachelor in a doctoral thesis entitled, "Death Shadow; Christianity and Post-traumatic Stress."

Lenten messages and teachings such as these can help provide a path forward for returning war veterans, and returning survivors of our fires and mudslides. We have a long recovery ahead of us. Your day-to-day worship and classes can make a huge impact in the lives for which Jesus died and was resurrected.

From the valleys of shadows and death comes life and hope.

*Pastor Jim*

# News from the Mission Team

By Judy Atwood, chair

## MISSION TEAM: FEBRUARY 2018

### MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Mission Around the World
2. Faith and Facts: Health and Wholeness
3. UMCOR SUNDAY
4. Special Giving Totals for 2018
- 5.

### GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

#### 1. MISSION AROUND THE WORLD

Our Mission team has chosen for us to support the same two covenant missionaries: Cindy and Gary Moon in Thailand and Mozart Adevu, Regional Coordinator for the Sustainable Agriculture and Development Program for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR-Africa). We will also continue the same Cal-Pac Missionaries: John Elmore (Chile), Steve Copley (Ark) Gary Locklear (NC) and Charley Brower (AK)

#### 2. FAITH AND FACTS: HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

##### What does the Bible say?

\*"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in health; I know that is well with your soul." (3 John 2)

\*"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." (Psalm 147:3)

\*"Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them and reveal to them abundance of prosperity and security." (Jeremiah 33:6)

##### What does The United Methodist Church say?

\*As a church, we are called to support the poor and challenge the rich. To begin to alleviate poverty, we support such policies as adequate income maintenance, quality education, decent housing, job training, meaningful employment opportunities, adequate medical and hospital care, humanization and radical revisions of welfare programs, work for peace and efforts to protect creation's integrity. (Social Principles, 163.E)

##### What do the facts say?

\*Household air pollution is estimated to cause one half of all pneumonia deaths of children under 5.

\*Life expectancy at birth in 2015 was 50.8 for women and 49.3 for men in Somalia, versus 83 in Switzerland.

\* Social and Economic determinants of health include water and sanitation, air quality, nutrition, income, education, gender, peace, and security.

##### What do you say?

\*Identify the health issues that people talk about privately and create spaces that remove stigma and shame to facilitate public education and advocacy.

\*Look for opportunities to participate in projects which go beyond simple health care measures like inoculation or clinics and address underlying causes of ill-health.

#### 3. UMCOR SUNDAY MARCH 11

UMCOR has been providing compassion and relief services to people and nations in crisis since 1940. They have a presence in over 80 countries and have helped tens of thousands of people receive help after war, disaster, conflict and other disruptive events that leave communities unable to recover on their own.

When you give today, you help cover the annual operational cost for UMCOR to apply 100% of other donations directly to relief efforts as well as long-term education and support.

*Many hands continue to do many things.*



#### 4. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2018

Watch as the totals grow during the year!

ELT Scholarship	0
UMCOR-Human Relations Offering	53.00
Missions	0
People's Kitchen Food	0
People's Kitchen Misc.	2,715.00
South County Food Bank	0
UMCOR-UMCOR Sunday	0
UMCOR-Imagine No Malaria	0
UMCOR-Native American	0
Noisy Offering	0
UMCOR-Peace with Justice	0
UMCOR-Hurricane Harvey	0
UMCOR-World Communion Sunday	0
UMCOR-Fire Relief	1,150.00
UMCOR (Student Day)	0
One Month Total:	\$2,913.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
				<p><b>1</b>  <b>8 AM</b> People's Kitchen Prep - Leave to Serve  <b>11:15 AM</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise—CH  <b>10 AM</b> Intercessory Prayer (L)  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Practice (Handbell Room)  <b>6 PM</b> Worship Team (MMR)</p>	<p><b>2</b>  <b>AGUMCC Spirit Day</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Bible Study—L  <b>3:30 PM</b> AGUMCCC closed  <b>3:30 PM</b> Staff Development—MMR</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>4</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Contemporary Service  <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service                       Coffee Hour: Trustees</p>	<p><b>5</b>  <b>11 AM</b> UMM Cabinet Meeting—L  <b>1 PM</b> Emergency Food Pantry—CH  <b>5:45 PM</b> G. McGuire Quilting Class—CH  <b>7 PM</b> Women of Prayer—S</p>	<p><b>6</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise—CH  <b>9 AM</b> Sew 'n' —MMR  <b>9:30 AM</b> UMW Steering Committee —L  <b>11 AM</b> UMW Chair Yoga—CH  <b>5PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal—HR</p>	<p><b>7</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>9 AM</b> Church Work Day  <b>5 PM</b> Free Dinner (CH)  <b>5:45 PM</b> Adult Lenten Study (CH)  <b>7 PM</b> Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p><b>8</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>10 AM</b> UMW Boutique Crafts—MMR  <b>10 AM</b> Intercessory Prayer (L)  <b>1:30 pm</b>  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal—HR</p>	<p><b>9</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Bible —L</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b>  <b>UMCOR SUNDAY</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Contemporary Service  <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service                       Coffee Hour: JOY Circle</p>	<p><b>12</b>  <b>1 PM</b> Emergency Food Pantry (CH)  <b>5:45 PM</b> G. McGuire Quilting Class (CH)  <b>7 PM</b> Women of Prayer (S)</p>	<p><b>13</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>9 AM</b> Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR)  <b>11 AM</b> UMW Chair Yoga Class" (CH)  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room)  <b>7 PM</b> Trustees (CH)</p>	<p><b>14</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>8 AM</b> Preschool Young Toddlers Party (MMR) Event 9-10 AM  <b>9 AM</b> Church Work Day  <b>5 PM</b> Free Dinner (CH)  <b>5:45 PM</b> Adult Lenten Study (CH)  <b>7 PM</b> Chancel Choir—S</p>	<p><b>15</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>8 AM</b> Preschool Older Toddlers Party (MMR) Event 9-10 AM  <b>10 AM</b> Intercessory Prayer (L)  <b>11 AM</b> Finance (PS)  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room)  <b>7 PM</b> Church Council—MMR</p>	<p><b>16</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Bible Study (L)                      April Castanet articles deadline at Noon</p>	<p><b>17</b>  <b>9 AM</b> UMM Breakfast Meeting, Coco's Restaurant   </p>
<p><b>18</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Contemporary Service  <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service                       Coffee Hour: Staff-Parish Relations Committee</p>	<p><b>19</b>  <b>1 PM</b> Emergency Food Pantry (CH)  <b>5:45 PM</b> G. McGuire Quilting Class (CH)  <b>7 PM</b> Women of Prayer (S)</p>	<p><b>20</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Ex (CH)  <b>9 AM</b> Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR)  <b>11 AM</b> UMW Chair Yoga Class (CH)                      Preschool Board—MMR  <b>1:30 PM</b> Open Session  <b>2:00 PM</b> Closed Session  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room)  <b>7 PM</b> JOY Circle (member's home)</p>	<p><b>21</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise—CH  <b>9 AM</b> Church Work Day  <b>10 AM</b> Communications—L  <b>5 PM</b> Free Dinner—CH  <b>5:45 PM</b> Adult Lenten Study—CH  <b>7 PM</b> Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p><b>22</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>10 AM</b> UMW Boutique Crafts—MMR  <b>10 AM</b> Intercessory Prayer (L)  <b>1 PM</b> Mission Team—MMR  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room)</p>	<p><b>23</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Bible Study (L)  <b>11 AM</b> UMW Book Club (MMR)</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25</b>  <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Contemporary Service  <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service                       Coffee Hour: CommunicationsTeam</p>	<p><b>26</b>  <b>1 PM</b> Emergency Food Pantry (CH)  <b>5:45 PM</b> G. McGuire Quilting Class—CH  <b>7 PM</b> Women of Prayer—S</p>	<p><b>27</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Ex (CH)  <b>9 AM</b> Sew 'n' Sews plus Knitters (MMR)  <b>11 AM</b> UMW Chair Yoga Class (CH)  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room)</p>	<p><b>28</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>9 AM</b> Church Work Day  <b>10 AM</b> Mary-Martha—Esther (MMR)  <b>5 PM</b> Free Dinner (CH)  <b>5:45 PM</b> Adult Lenten Study (CH)  <b>7 PM</b> Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p><b>29</b>  <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Senior Exercise (CH)  <b>10 AM</b> UMW Boutique Crafts—MMR  <b>10 AM</b> Intercessory Prayer (L)  <b>5 PM</b> Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room)</p>	<p><b>30</b>  <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>  <b>8:30 AM</b> Bible Study (L)  <b>11 AM</b> UMW Book Club (MMR)</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>



Church Office: (805) 481-2692  
 E-mail: [fumcag@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fumcag@sbcglobal.net)  
 Find us on Facebook at: **United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande**  
[www.facebook.com/fumcag](http://www.facebook.com/fumcag)  
**Senior Pastor:**  
 Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis  
**E-mail:** [revmaryb@fumcag.org](mailto:revmaryb@fumcag.org)  
**Missionary (retired):** Judy Atwood  
**Lay Leader:** Patti Melsheimer  
**Office Administrator:**  
 Frances Robertson  
**Website Manager:** Jamie Foster  
**Choir Director:** Julie Burns  
**Choral Pianist:** Dennis Eiler  
**Multi-Media:** Duncan Leonard  
**Handbell Choir Dir.:** Leonard Lutz  
**Bishop:** Grand J. Hagiya  
**District Superintendent:**  
 Rev. James Powell

**AG UM Children's Center**  
**Director:** Madrigal Quaglino  
 E-mail: [agumcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:agumcc@sbcglobal.net)  
 Office: (805) 481-2223

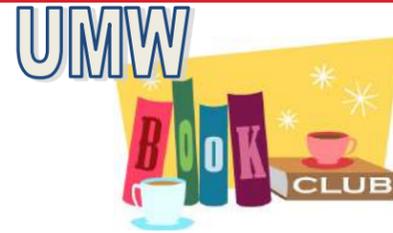


**Chair:** Joe Brown  
**Members At Large (alphabetically):**  
 Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Pastor Mary Birgelaitis, Judy Leonard, Patti Melsheimer, Virginia Mothes, Frances Robertson.  
**Layout Editor:** Frances Robertson  
**Proofing Team:** Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Joe Brown, Judy Leonard, and Virginia Mothes.  
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**Deadline for April Issue**  
**Friday, March 16, at Noon**

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
 Layout Editor reserves the right to cut and edit articles to meet space limitations.

**UMW Book Club News**



Have you ever encountered someone who at first annoys you? Then over time you realize that this person has touched your life in unexpected positive ways. For our March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the UMW Book Club will discuss a charming novel, *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman.

Set in Sweden we get a glimpse of a neighborhood of people trying to make it through life. This book will make you laugh, cry, and consider the many ways in which our actions touch others.

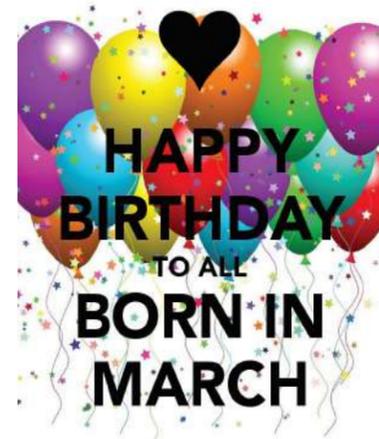
Join our group on Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 in the McMillen Room to discuss this book. Patti Melsheimer will have copies of the book available at church. Or you can check out a copy of *A Man Called Ove* through the public library system.

*submitted by Judy Leonard*

**Don't forget to...**

**SPRING FORWARD!**

**In the USA, at 2 a.m. on 11 March 2018, clocks will be forwarded one hour, marking the beginning of Daylight Saving Time**



Have we missed **your** birthday? If so, it is not listed on our computer. Please contact the church office and we will be glad to add your birth date to our monthly birthday list!

Carina Avila.....	03/02
Lucy Jacob.....	03/07
Doris Leddy.....	03/07
Toni Harvey.....	03/20
Marian Middleton.....	03/23
Ann Wilson.....	03/29
Chuck Ashton.....	03/30
Arianna Davis.....	03/31



# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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*Fine—and Fun—entertainment at the UMM Sweetheart Breakfast!*



Photo by Cristy Van Hook