### HOPE, JOY AND LOVE RISING



# Cast~A

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande JULY 2024

### TRUSTEES REPORT - NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROJECTS



The Trustees were delighted to welcome three new Trustee members to our June meeting!

They are Scott Trees, Jack Cuddy and Lorie Ford.

They join the team of current members – David Beard, Mary Hawkins, Irene Kliesch, Patti Melsheimer and me.

The main subject of discussion for the month was the awarding of a contract to have an ADA approved ramp installed at the entrance to the McMillen room from the parking lot. This will facilitate entrance to the McMillen

room and the Pre-school. People using walkers or wheelchairs and parents using strollers are looking forward to this installation!

The Trustees are seeking volunteers to take on some of the responsibilities that Harry Egan carried out for so many years – David and Dorine Bolterman have volunteered to put the recycle bins out on the curb for pickup, but we need someone to take responsibility for regularly emptying the trash baskets in the kitchen, Criswell Hall, and McMillen room.

Please contact me if you would like to accept this duty.

~submitted by Dick Melsheimer, President



SAT JUL 13--

5-7 PM UWF Bingo, Pizza

& Ice Cream Night

**SUN Jul 14--**

20-minute minimembership class after

each worship service,

SUN JUL 28--

4 PM Free Movie--"Ordinary Angels" Free popcorn & refreshments

SAT AUG 3--9 AM UMM Breakfast at

Hilton Garden Inn \$20

SAT AUG 3--

10 AM SLO Botanical

Garden Visit

Meet at church 9:20 AM

to carpool \$8 fee

SUN AUG 25--

Watch for Free Movie

WED SEP 11--

9:30 AM Camp Arroyo Grande Discovery Walk Meet at church 9:15 AM

to carpool

SIGN UP FOR THE ABOVE SUMMER EVENTS IN NARTHEX

### REGULAR EVENTS IN SUMMER

**Sunday Church Services** 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service

**UWF and Circle Groups** Sew n Sews 10 AM Tuesdays Mary-Martha Esther 10 AM last Wednesdays of month

10:30 AM UWF Book Club

Quilt Class resumes in August

## FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

Check out the Connections table to see the great activities on offer! Then sign up and put the events on your calendars!

There was a good contingent of faithful hikers in June at our Sweet Spring Nature Walk in Los Osos. Then on June 22<sup>nd</sup> Scott, Bob, and Luna welcomed us to their home and garden.



Scott taught us how to pollinate roses.

The visit was a total delight!

THANK YOU!



Fellowship Ministry is also sponsoring the Sunday movie on July 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM in Criswell Hall. The movie is "Ordinary Angels" with Hilary Swank. A struggling hairdresser finds a renewed sense of purpose when she meets a widowed father working hard to take care of his two daughters. With his youngest critically ill and waiting for a liver transplant, the young woman single-handedly rallies the entire community to help. As usual, the movie is free, as are popcorn and refreshments. Get your free tickets at the Connection table.

~submitted by Gerry McGuire, Chair



The UMM's Father's Day tri-tip barbecue was a great success! So, sincere thanks to: Dave & Dorine Bolterman, Dick Melsheimer, Bob Underwood, Bud Johnson, Kent Unsworth, Frank Williams, John MacKeen, and all others who helped! And thank you to those who supported the UMM by purchasing the barbecue!

The United Methodist Men will be having a breakfast meeting on Saturday. August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 AM at the Hilton Garden Inn. The guest speaker is Molly Kern of the SLO Food Bank. Admission is \$20.

Ladies are welcome. A sign up will be in the Narthex in July.

~submitted by Paul Holden, President





Here is Jan, in sunglasses & hat, enjoying a Fellowship walk with her UMC friends.

For over twelve years, Jan Treat has carried out the duties of Liturgist Scheduler. She has recruited people to do this, scheduled them, made sure that each volunteer remembers, and that Frances has the information for the Sunday bulletin each week.

She has even filled in whenever someone is not able to do the liturgists' duties!

Like so many in our church, she has quietly done a very important job with very little notice. We all thank you for your work, Jan!



And now we will have a new person taking on this responsibility.
Carolyn Anderson has volunteered to be the Liturgist Scheduler!
Thank you, Carolyn!

~submitted by Patti Melsheimer

### WORSHIP LITURGISTS



### JULY 7

8:30 a.m.----Joseph Brown 10:30 a.m.----Michelle Richardson

### JULY 14

8:30 a.m.-----Mary Throndson 10:30 a.m.-----BG Perriguey

#### JULY 21

8:30 a.m.---Susan Throndson 10:30 a.m.----Rosslyn Clauson

#### JULY 28

8:30 a.m.-----David Beard 10:30 a.m.-----Judy Leonard

~ submitted by Carolyn Anderson

There is an urgent need for ushers to participate in our 2<sup>nd</sup>

service! Several of our steadfast ushers of many years have asked to retire from this service. We are so grateful for their time, welcoming hands and friendship. In honoring their request, we must rebuild our faithful Team of Ushers this year. I ask as you go about your weekly schedule that you include in your prayers consideration of joining the Team of Ushers. Both men and

women, also couples, are encouraged to give it a try. This is a great opportunity to greet and assist ALL who enter our doors. We are a "Welcoming Church" with many opportunities for worship, fellowship and service. Our ushers are the first ones that



people meet as they enter our church. Please see Kerren Brown, who is usually in the Narthex each Sunday morning, to explore joining our Team of Ushers.

~submitted by Kerren Brown

### From the Pastor:

I came across a hymn written by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa, released in 2018. The imagery, melody and words inspire me. It's titled "Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor":

Christ the sure and steady Anchor in the fury of the storm, when the winds of doubt blow through me and my sails have all been torn.

In the suffering, in the sorrow, when my sinking hopes are few, I will hold fast to the Anchor, it shall never be removed.

The hymn sings of raging tempests, temptation, darkness and the doubt of unbelief, all the while hanging on to the ballast of hope, claiming Christ as a sure and steady anchor in life. The last verse reads:

Christ the sure and steady Anchor as we face the wave of death, when these trials give way to glory as we draw our final breath. We will cross that great horizon clouds behind and life secure and the calm will be the better for the storms that we endure.

I submit these words in honor and memory of the many dear people we have lost to death this spring, as we continue to sing out our faith and dare to be bold as we claim the promise that we will be reunited again:

Christ the shore of our salvation, ever faithful, ever true We will hold fast to the Anchor, it shall never be removed.

Peace be with you,

Rev. Mary Bingulaitis

Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR CHURCH?

There will be a twenty-minute mini-class after each service on July 14th in the Pastor's Office.

### **JULY WORSHIP!**

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost GOD PROVIDES: Vision 2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost GOD PROVIDES: An Inheritance Psalm 24, Ephesians 1:3-14 July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost GOD PROVIDES: Foundation Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost GOD PROVIDES: Strength Psalm 14, Ephesians 3:14-21



# United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith seeks 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.

JULY, 2024

### Saturday, July 13 at 5:00 pm

United Women in Faith, by popular demand will host a **Bingo and Pizza party**. Get ready! Of course there will be prizes and lots of fun. We will end it all with **Ice Cream Sundaes**. What could be better on a hot summer evening?





The cost is \$20. Get your tickets which are on sale starting June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### CIRCLES AND GROUPS

All women are invited to attend.

Mary, Martha Esther Circle meets the last Wednesday of each month at 10 am in the McMillen Room. Come join us, we'd love to have you!

Contact Mary Throndson.

<u>Joy Circle</u> has the summer off. See you in September.

<u>Book Club</u> meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays in the Library at 10:30 am. Contact Judy Leonard for information.

Sew And Sews meet every Tuesday in the McMillen Room 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Bring a sandwich if you want to stay for lunch. We encourage all interested in quilting, crocheting, knitting and just plain visiting and sharing to attend.

~submitted by Gerry McGuire, UWF President





### July UWF Book Club Selection: The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store

This month the UWF Book Club will explore the lives and struggles of some Jewish and Black immigrants in a small town in Pennsylvania. Despite the dreams of an America where people could live and work together peaceably, these newest arrivals in the early 1900's discovered the prejudices still evident today.

Although it is a novel, <u>The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store</u> by James McBride is historically accurate even in its description of the closing of a local mental asylum. The discovery of a skeleton in a well at the beginning of the book draws the reader Into the mystery of what

happened in the town. As you can tell, there are many pieces to this story.

story.

Readers will be responsible for

getting their own copies of this book.
You can purchase it online as a used book or in a bookstore. Unfortunately there are no library book kits available. We will meet on:

Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am in the church library.

Everyone is welcome to join us! See Judy Leonard for more information.

~submitted by Judy Leonard

EHEAVEN

& EARTH GROCERY

# EVERETT LEE TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 1990-2024

Elizabeth Alquist David Anderson Carina Avila David Avila Chelsea Bailey University of California, Berkeley University of California, Riverside Pace University Cal Lutheran University Sonoma State University Brandman University

Matt Kuhns Charles Lang Beth Mahoney Jed Moore

Collin Odom

Chloe Keith

Cuesta College University of Montana Western Chapman College University of California, Los Angeles Cal Poly State University Cuesta College

Christina Bailey Ryan Bailey Kelley Ballagh Nick Ballagh Ben Baughman Nicole Baughman

Long Beach State University University of California, San Diego Alan Hancock College University of the Pacific University of California, Santa Cruz University of California, Los Angeles

Ryan Odom Adrian Paredes Rebecca Reineke Jenifer Richison Temple University
The Juilliard School, New York City
Cuesta College
Cuesta College
Cal Poly State University
University of the Pacific
Southwestern Methodist University

Cuesta College

lan Beard Madison Bridges Paige Bridges Jeremy Burns Jennifer Cross Kristen Davis Tyler Davis San Diego State University
Alan Hancock Community College
Alan Hancock Community College
Alan Hancock College
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
Cal Poly State University
Chico State University

Caitlin Riley Sheila Riley Ross Roemer Ryan Roemer Christina Rohla University of California, Santa Cruz Cuesta College University of California, Santa Barbara Stanford University Cal Poly State University

Sharon Duffin Tracy Foster Trevor Foster Amy Gerrish

Courtney Hall

University of the Pacific Cal Poly State University Indiana University UCLA, School of Law New York University Cuesta College Point Loma Nazarene Un

Fresno State University

Matthew Rohla Carolyn Russell Isabella Russell Chad Smithback Mara Spalding Chico State University
Brandman University
Channel Islands State University
Sonoma State University
Cal Poly State University

Patrick Harvey

Jordan Henderson

Point Loma Nazarene University Cuesta College University of California, Davis Megan Stephenson Susan Throndson Jeff Treat Amanda Trecartin Jennifer Trecartin Cal Poly State University Brandman University Cornell University Cal Poly State University University of California, Davis

Ashley Herber Caitlin Herber

University of the Pacific Azusa Pacific University Cal Poly State University Brandman University University of California, Berkeley

Cassandra Williams Jessica Williams Jenny Wineberg Julie Wise Tammy Wise Cal Poly State University
Cal Poly State University
Cuesta College
Cuesta College
Cuesta College

Alan Kackmeister





### ELT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS HONORED ON JUNE 23, 2024

On June 23<sup>rd</sup> two outstanding college students, Ian Beard and Chloe Keith, were honored with ELT Scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year. In the 1980's the ELT Scholarship was established in memory of a beloved former pastor, Everett Lee Taylor. Over the years more than 50 students have received the ELT Scholarship with many of them receiving it multiple times.

Chloe has been a recipient for five (5) years as she continues as a senior at the University of Montana Western. Ian will be a second year recipient when he returns to San Diego State University this fall. Both of them have been grateful for the support our church has shown them.

Although Chloe was unable to attend the scholarship presentation, she was there in spirit. Last year she continued to excel in her classes earning a 3.82 Overall GPA. She has completed challenging laboratory science classes at her university while working two part-time jobs- one in campus events and the other a cake-making position - and remaining active in the Grace United Methodist Church choir. This summer she is interning with her horse, Legend, in Lipan, Texas where she is working beside a professional reined cow horse trainer. Chloe is excited about getting to ride many incredible horses there. She is pursuing two bachelors degrees – one in Natural Horsemanship and the other in Psychology. Chloe will receive a \$1,000 ELT Scholarship.



Chloe and her horse, Legend



Ian at his university

Our second recipient, Ian Beard, has made lifelong friends during his first year at San Diego State University while earning A's in all his classes. In addition he has become actively involved in the campus astronomy club, the Schwartz Astronomical Society (SAS), which opened his mind to future career possibilities. He has also visited the Mount Laguna Observatory and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. He really has enjoyed receiving training in the astronomy outreach programs demonstrating safe solar eclipse-watching and operating the QUESTAR telescope which allows him to conduct future planetarium shows. Although his astronomy coursework really begins his second year, he has already made positive connections with Astronomy Department faculty and students. Ian will also receive a \$1,000 ELT Scholarship.

We are excited for both Chloe and Ian as they continue to pursue their passions. If you would like to contribute to the ELT Scholarship Fund, you can donate at any time. Checks can be made out to FUMCAG denoting ELT on the memo line.

### GREETINGS FROM YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR!

It's been ages since I've written an article for you because life has been so very busy. I had to share with you a bit of our amazing experience in New York, though, and give us all something to look forward to in the upcoming months.

We want to share Mark Hayes' amazing work, "Kindness" with you in a meaningful way, so look forward to a date in the future months where we can share more pictures, videos and the music of what we experienced. This project





was exceptionally special to me and members of our choir as a musical way to express how we can all change the world with simple acts of Kindness. We will do a video perfor performance sing-along, if you will, of the concert, once our DVD arrives from the concert. Our singers will accompany it to re-live the wonderful half an hour performance in Lincoln Center.

Besides the two half-day rehearsals, and the day of the concert, we all had many special times of enjoying New York's fast-paced lifestyle... Restaurants, Theater, sights and sounds, and a very special comradery among singers and new and old friends.

While only there five nights, we didn't have much down time.

Each of us has a different story to tell, so talk with us and get everyone's different perspective.

Singers included: Ed Avila (our solo male singer contributor), Roz Clauson, Carol Gary, Sandy Underwood, Cristy Van Hook, Madeline Phelps, Mary Whitson, Nancy St. Laurent, Marianne Greenelsh (visitor who has sung with us in Mark Hayes event), and Moi... Julia Burns). Our VIPS accompanying us were Kerren Brown, Leland Fonseca, Chad and Susan Gifford (relatives of Carol Gary's) and Rebeca Avila.

There's so much more I can say, but will save it for our upcoming New York Lincoln Center Revival.

Your humble servant in Christ,

Julia



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# News from the Mission Team





Mission Team servers above are Frank and Patty Williams, Judy Leonard, Hilary Henderson and Dorine Bolterman.

## Mission Team serves at People's Kitchen

Supporting a long tradition of service, your Mission Team prepares and serves nutritious meals at People's Kitchen throughout the year, when there is a 5th Tuesday of the month. It is located at 9th and Rockaway in the House of God building. Sharing the building is the 5Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry. Clients attend a short church service inside the building, led by volunteer ministers, prior to walking through the serving line and receiving their meal at the end. Each church may design their own menu. We serve a hearty chicken casserole chock full of vegetables, a garden salad, buttered roll, applesauce and dessert. In January we served 70 clients and by April the count was up to 100!

The People's Kitchen receives donations from the public, which pay for their supplies. They also get food from the Food Bank, which is kept in storage for groups like ours to use. In addition, they receive and distribute gently used clothing, new socks and basic toiletries, all of which our church and others have generously donated. Thank you so much for your recent response to these appeals!

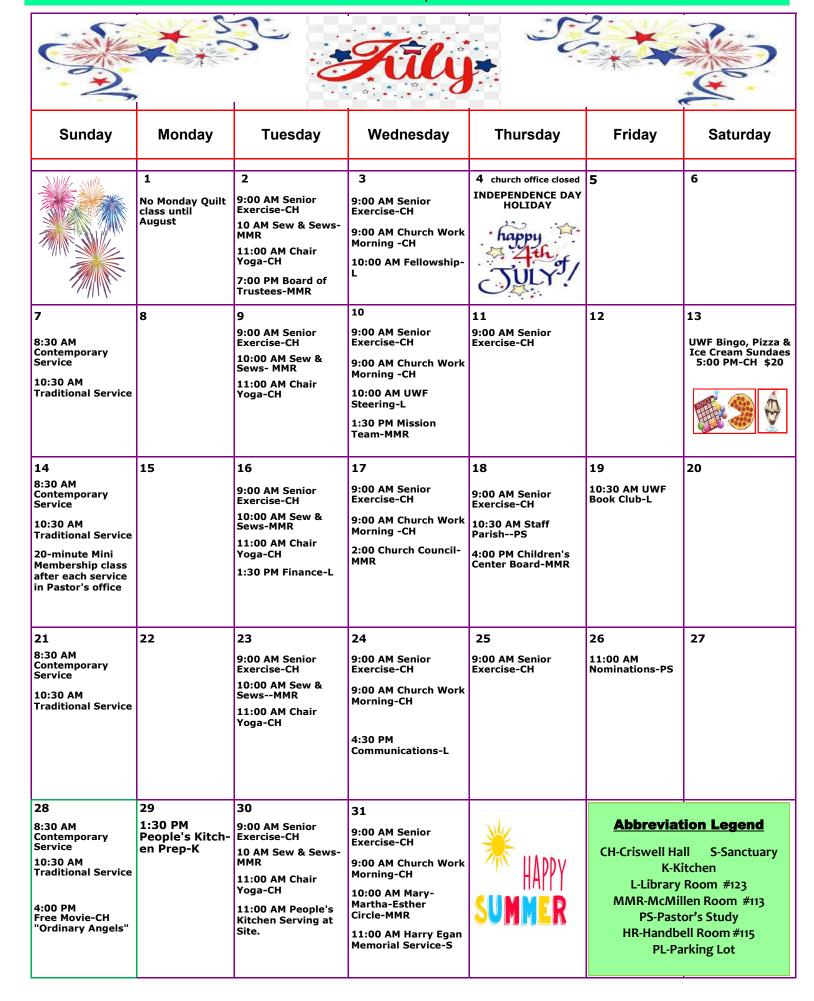
Your Mission Team prepares the casseroles and bread the afternoon before serving day. The next morning the casseroles are heated in the new kitchen ovens and salad is prepared. We have been having 5 to 7 members and volunteers work each day. We encourage those interested in helping with this worthy effort to join us. You can contact Priscilla Alquist if interested.

Recently, the California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church issued a Hunger Grant Application for \$500 as part of the Justice & Compassion Essential Ministry Team. Sandy Underwood helped get the grant request written and WE HAVE RECEIVED THE GRANT! It helps fund the feeding at People's Kitchen and leaves us with more capability of giving financial assistance to the Five Women's Food Pantry and the 5Cities Homeless Coalition.



~ submitted by Priscilla Alquist, Mission Team Chair

Photo on the left is Lorie Ford donating toiletries for clients at People's Kitchen the day the Mission Team provided the lunchtime meal.





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## TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

### Facilitated by Nancy St. Laurent

In June the Bible Study group completed Matthew: The Gospel of Promised Blessings by Matthew L. Skinner.

After taking a summer break the study group will begin with a new book,

CALLED by Susan Robb--Hearing and Responding to God's Voice--Lessons from Six Biblical Characters.

Sessions begin at 1:00 PM on Tuesdays in September (exact date TBD) with weekly gatherings in Criswell Hall.

Books available from Nancy.



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP?

Do you enjoy the beautiful flower arrangements placed on the altar on Sundays? Dates are available for Sunday morning flower dedications in upcoming months. Your floral tributes are welcomed and will be placed on the altar for both services on Sunday. You can pick up your arrangement after the second service. Just let us know.

### The cost for altar flowers is \$30.

You have the option to have flowers from Grand Bouquet or have Brad Bettencourt make your arrangement. Please contact Frances in the Church Office. She is the liaison with both Grand Bouquet and Brad.



Collin Odom	07/02
Mary Whitson	07/03
Bud Johnson	07/06
Michael Rohla	07/08
Larry Baughman	07/11
Bernie Hawkins	07/11
Lexie Harrigan	07/13
Dick Melsheimer	07/14
Valerie Beard	07/15
Faye Cuddy	07/15
Joel Anderson	07/19
Christine Ridley	07/20
David Bolterman	07/23

### **HOSPITALITY SNACK HOSTS**

JUL 7	Membership
JUL 14	Endowment/ELT
JUL 21	Mission Team
JUL 28	Communications
AUG 4	Trustees
AUG 11	Staff-Parish
AUG 18	Finance Team
AUG 25	Nominating



# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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## Visit us on the web at worshipweekly.com

Find us on Facebook at United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande www.facebook.com/fumcag



To Our Church Family

Thank you to everyone for the cards, prayers, condolences and expressions of comfort at Bob's passing.

The McGuire Family

# ISSUE

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Children's Center Chronicle

# Church Council June, 2024



The June Church Council Meeting was cancelled due to vacations! The members of the Church Council continue discussing our duties and how we can energize our church. If you have friends that might be interested, invite them to join you for church service or for some of our special activities. There re fun and interesting activities planned throughout the summer.

We will be celebrating our church's 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary in September. If you would like to be part of that planning committee or have information about the early days of the Arroyo Grande Methodist church, please contact Joel Anderson as he is the chairman of the planning committee.

~submitted by Patti Melsheimer, Chair