



Community United Methodist Church

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January 2015 Newsletter

~ From Pastor Ofa ~

Greetings to everyone. I wish everyone and their families a most blessed, happy and prosperous New Year. I would always acknowledge and praise God for His love, grace, mercy, guidance, leadership, protection, and provision in all phases of our lives. We have made it all to a New Year 2015!

The Psalmist said “Lord you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. If the LORD had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence. When I thought, “My foot is slipping, your steadfast love, O LORD help me up.” What an awesome piece of testimony. We could all resonate with the Psalmist words of appreciation because God’s love is truly beyond our understanding and His love is unconditional and unlimited too.

As Christians we are grateful for God’s precious gift of life. Thus we journeyed into the New Year with new hopes, new perspectives, new goals, new ambitions, new faith, new trust, and everything must be new. Apostle Paul wrote his Epistle to the Ephesians setting out “rules for the new life.” These rules are applicable to our journey as fellow Christians. Apostle Paul stressed in Ephesians 4:22-32 “You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. Apostle Paul continued to teach the

Ephesians by saying “speak the truth to your neighbors, for we are members of one another, and let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.” He ends his advice to the Ephesians on this chapter by emphasizing “To be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.”

May this New Year be a year of prosperity, a year of spiritual revival for everybody who believe in the new born Savior. May this New Year be a time for new beginning, forgiving, restoration, reconciliation in our relationship with God and with our neighbors and family members. Let me say and I definitely pray that God will bless each and every one of you. May God’s grace, mercy, and love fill our spirit and we can all start afresh with the Holy Spirit taking the lead. On behalf of my family and I, we all wish you many blessings. We all say “thank you” for all your services, gifts and talents, dedication and commitment to do God’s ministry. Remember to give thanks and praises to God for He will hear our prayers. May God overshadow you and your loved ones, and may the Holy Spirit grant all of you His favor.

Blessings and Prayers,

Pastor Ofa Haunga.

~ Trustees Corner~

The Trustees are happy to announce that we received an anonymous donation of \$40,000 to put in a NEW PARKING LOT. Yes, to take out the old lot, grade, level and put down new 2-1/2 inch surface. This project, to do it right, will cost \$80,000. We would like to do this job in May, but “we”, need your help! This is your home too, and the next three months we will be having functions to raise money and meet the additional goal of \$40,000. The Trustee’s challenge you to pledge an amount each month, starting TODAY!! The donor of the first \$40,000 will match every dollar we raise. This is a win, win! So, we are looking for your help! Each month I will report to you how we are doing. We can do it! Let's show the anonymous donor that we care too! The Trustee's also want to thank Joe Officer for

putting up the handrail on the wall, so that we can get up to the Altar safely. It was much needed. The Tree project has been put on hold until after the rains. There is time to also donate to the Tree Project. Yes, many projects are in works and the Trustees are doing quite well with what we have to work with. If you have any suggestions, please contact a Trustee so that we can get whatever, on the agenda. HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR IN 2015.

Judy Bradley

Trustee's President

~Finance~

The next finance will be on January 22nd at 7:00 PM in the Chapel.

~United Methodist Women~

UMW will meet on Thursday, January 8th at noon.

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 12th at noon.

~Esther Circle Women's Group~

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 21st at 7PM in the Library.

Buy your tickets now for the Mardi Gras dinner which will be on **Saturday, February 7th** starting at 5PM. The last day to buy tickets will be Sunday, February 1st. To-Go meals will be available.

~I Bet You Did Not Know~

And God Looked Down upon Seniors...

Most seniors never get enough exercise. So in his wisdom God decreed that seniors would become forgetful that they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things misplaced and so do some walking.

And God Looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was yet a need.

So God in his wisdom made seniors loose coordination that they would drop things which would require them to bend and reach and stretch.

And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the functioning of senior bladders and decided that in His wisdom there might be calls of nature more frequently requiring more trips to the relief station that would burn calories.

God looked down and saw that it was good.

Seniors were obliged to exercise more from these senior shortcomings and did become more active as a result.

So if you find you are required to get up and down more as you age, Remember it's God's will and in your best interests even though you mutter under your breath.

Amen! Let it be! And it is good.

~Please Keep In Your Prayers~

Tom & Betty Bicknell

Lillian Chicou

Carrie Davis

Olive Davis

Marilyn Heath

Ken & Mary Huckaby

Jerry & Joyce Ichord

Barbara Keeler

Shirley Kremers

John & Marguerite Lloyd

Marion Macdonald

Elaine Matthews

Marilyn Mitchell

Victor & Shirley Nikolashin

Frankie Rebiskie

Remkiewicz family

Butch & Dianne Sanders

Beverly Schoenwetter

Donald & Margaret Scott

Ruth Ann Spencer

Bobby Williams

Those in the Military

Our Church and Church Families

Travel Mercies

The world at unrest

Please call the office if you know of someone who needs our prayers.

~Other Important Dates~

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Sundays at 9:15am | Bible Study of Matthew with Jim Fonda - Library |
| 4 th Wednesday at 7:00pm | Esther Circle - Library |
| Thursdays at 10:00am | Bible Study of Matthew with Pastor Ofa - Chapel |
| Fridays at 2:00pm | Bible Study of Matthew at Riverbank UMC with Pastor Ofa |
| *** Sunday, February 8 th | Boy Scout Sunday and Pancake Breakfast (8AM) ***** |
| Wednesday, February 18 th | Ash Wednesday |
| Fri – Sun March 6 – 8 | UMW Retreat in Oakhurst |
| Sunday, March 29 th | Palm Sunday |
| Sunday, April 5 th | Easter |

PLEASE CHECK THE CALENDAR FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS

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~Greeter Schedule~

February – United Methodist Women (Boy Scout Sunday – February 8th, they will greet)
March – Trustees
April – Esther Circle
May – Staff Parish Relations Committee
June – United Methodist Men
July – Ad Council
August – Praise Team

Please let the office know if you would like to be a greeter. Thank You!

~Counter Schedule~

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| January 11 | Herb Williams | Phyllis Pottle |
| January 18 | Jim Fonda | Doreen Stever |
| January 25 | Andy Anderson | Judy Bradley |
| February 1 | Doug Kolsters | Ann Butler |
| February 8 | Glenn Gorman | Becky Officer |
| February 15 | Joe Officer | Carolyn Hallinan |
| February 22 | Jim Austin | Joyce Riddle |
| March 1 | Andy Anderson | Becky Williams |
| March 8 | Jim Fonda | Margie Anderson |
| March 15 | Herb Williams | Phyllis Pottle |
| March 22 | Doug Kolsters | Doreen Stever |



January 2015



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|---|----------------------|-----|
| | | | | 1 1:00 pm Al-Anon | 2 7:00pm Al-Anon | 3 |
| 4 | 5 6:00pm Al-Anon 6:00pm Scouts 7:00pm Trustees | 6 | 7 7:00pm Praise Team | 8 Noon UMW Lunch 1:00 pm Al-Anon | 9 7:00pm Al-Anon | 10 |
| 11 | 12 6:00pm Al-Anon 6:00pm Scouts | 13 | 14 7:00pm Praise Team | 15 1:00 pm Al-Anon | 16 7:00pm Al-Anon | 17 |
| 18 UMM Breakfast Ad Council Meeting | 19 6:00pm Al-Anon 6:00pm Scouts | 20 Care Center Service & Singing | 21 7:00pm Praise Team 7:00pm Esther Circle | 22 1:00 pm Al-Anon 7:00pm Finance Mtg | 23 7:00pm Al-Anon | 24 |
| 25 | 26 6:00pm Al-Anon 6:00pm Scouts | 27 | 28 7:00pm Praise Team | 29 1:00 pm Al-Anon | 30 7:00pm Al-Anon | 31 |