

HIGHLIGHTS

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS

May 20 - Choir Recognition Sunday
Our Summer Sunday Worship Schedule resumes on May 20 with one service at 10 am on Choir Recognition Sunday. Come pay your respects to our wonderful Choirs that grace our sanctuary with beautiful music each week. All of them will participate in this festive musical service which includes the Chancel Choir, the Youth Choir, the Children's Choir, the Cherub Choir and the Youth and Amadeus Handbell Choirs. Also come to greet those who normally attend a different service than you the rest of the year. We will worship at 10 am during the summer months through Labor Day weekend.

SOCIAL CONCERNS FILM SERIES

Continues Sunday, May 20
On May 20 at 11:15 am in the Fireside Room, the Social Concerns Council will show excerpts from the controversial film "Bowling for Columbine" by Michael Moore, using this film to facilitate a discussion focused on the ongoing theme of conflict resolution and overcoming violence. All are welcome.

VENICE ART WALK

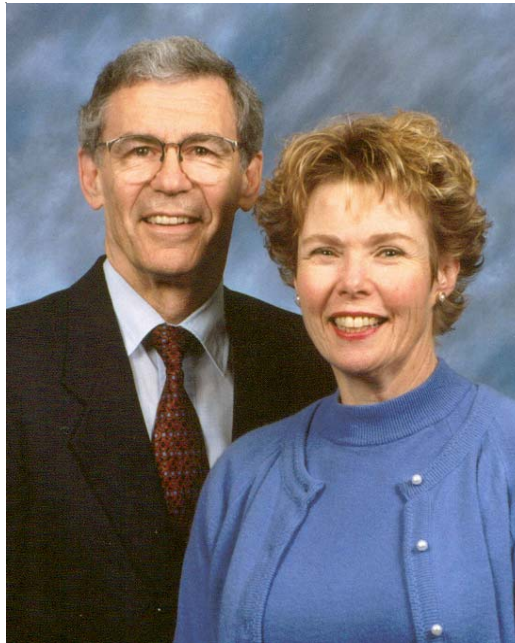
May 20 @ Westminster School
The Venice Art Walk is the major fundraiser for the Venice Family Clinic, the largest free clinic in the country. FUMC members can obtain a free ticket to the event by volunteering to help close the silent auction. Contact Jane Spiegel for more information at (310) 315-0196.

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadline for Applications, May 20!
Applications for this year's Methodist Foundation Scholarships are available in the church office AND on the church website and are due by May 20.

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, May 27
The Fellowship & Events Committee invites EVERYONE to the All-Church Picnic on May 27 for BBQ style food provided by the bridge (\$5 a plate), snowcones and popcorn provided by the youth group and a variety of fun activities for all ages. Bring a friend or a neighbor to worship and stay for the picnic!



THANK YOU

by Patricia Farris

After seven years and ten days as our Associate Pastor, the Rev. Larry Young is going to retire! He and Jean are looking forward to a more flexible schedule with time for travel and other leisure pursuits.

Coming on our staff for a year or two after a year of retirement, we quickly

found that FUMC and Larry made a great match. Across his more than seven years as one of our pastors, many people have greatly appreciated Larry's classes, sermons and pastoral care. He has ministered to many of our homebound members and to families at the time of a memorial service. In the office, Larry's experience and his calm demeanor have greatly contributed to our common life. His passion for Mission has made him invaluable to our Missions Council, the Social Concerns Council, our partnership with the Iware District in Nigeria and our Gulf Coast Work Teams.

Jean has also found a home at FUMC. Through her participation on the Health Ministry Council, the Worship Renewal Team and most recently as a Keiskamma Docent, Jean, too, has added much to the life of our congregation.

Happily, Larry and Jean have chosen FUMC as their on-going church home. We'll see them in worship (when they're in town!) and Larry is eager to take on some short-term classes and pastoral care, time permitting.

We will celebrate Larry and Jean's time on staff in Coffee Hour, Sunday, June 17. We also invite you to contribute to a Thank-You gift for them which will assist them in fulfilling their travel dreams. Please send your check to FUMC marked "Young Gift."



Early summertime brings celebrations to many: Mother's Day and Father's Day, graduations, weddings, births and baptisms and the lure of vacation time. These have all been part of the life of our congregation, including the incredible joy of the 100th birthdays of Polly Anderson and Marj Farrar.

The days have brought losses as well—the difficult diagnosis of serious illness to some, dreams left unfulfilled, and the loss to death of dear saints we have loved.

There is a sense as summer begins of life in all its fullness and mystery, its promise and its pain. The seasons turn and the cycles of life and death continue and in the midst of it all we strive to be God's faithful people, grounded in the assurance of God's abiding love.

In gratitude for all of you and for the journey we share, I offer this prayer, a prayer for seasons of turnings and changes, and celebrations and setbacks, a prayer for every day and special days and days when we do not know how to pray.

*Jesus our guide, we journey in faith to
resurrection, through failure, through success,
through whatever lies ahead; for You are the way, and life.
Ever-loving God, you alone can bring order to our unruly
wills and affections. Give us grace to love what you command
and desire what you promise, that in all the changes and
chances of this uncertain world, our hearts may surely there
be fixed where true joys are found. God our ruler and our
guide, when we come to the place where the road divides,
keep us true to the way of Christ, alive to present
opportunities, and confident of eternal life. Amen.*

Patricia Jarvis

OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

Births

We congratulate new parents Chelsea and Jim Kirtley and proud grandmother Char Smith, on the birth of Gavin James on May 11. Gavin was the most special Mother's Day gift at 7 lbs 9 oz and 20 inches long. The entire family is doing well. Welcome, Gavin!

Welcome

We welcome the new Interim Director of Upward Bound House, David Snow, following the resignation of Andrew Parker. David is already at work moving the Food Pantry and other projects forward to insure a seamless transition and the continuation of the important work being done through UBH for homeless families and seniors.

Happy Birthday

We wish a very happy birthday to two of our long time members. Polly Anderson turns 100 on May 14 and Marj Farrar turns 100 on June 4! Congratulations, ladies!

Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathy to:
-the family and friends of Grace Munn who passed away on May 4. A service for her is still to be announced.
-the family and friends of Jack Okuda who passed away on May 7. A service will be held for him at FUMC on May 20 at 3 pm with a reception following in the Fireside Room.
-the family and friends of Al Read who passed away on May 8. A service was held for him on May 12.

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful card you sent me. It came at a time when I was feeling low and cheered me up immensely. I fell and broke bones in my wrist on Good Friday, April 6. Everything seems to be healing and on target now. Thanks for thinking of me and for your well wishes. I am surely blessed to have caring people like yourselves in my life. - Carole Sumler

In Memoriam

Recently I had the rare privilege of attending the annual FBI Memorial Service. The service was MC'd by our member Larry Wilson, retired field director of the FBI. The service remembers agents who have fallen in the line of duty. It was also a time of honoring all law enforcement personnel including members of the Sheriff's department and LA Police department. Many thanks to Bob Hedges and Mary Crawford who rang bells as names were read and again to Larry for his dedication. - Brad Beeman



May 20 - Summer Schedule Begins
(Methodist Foundation Scholarship Applications due)

- 8:45 am Partnership with God, Rm 101
Get to Know the Eatons
- 9 am Shareringers, Rm 203
- 10 am Worship - Choir Recognition
- 11 am Coffee Hour, SH
- 11:15 Fellowship & Events, Rm 203
- 11:15 Social Concerns Film Series, FR
- 11:15 Spiritual Formation, Rm 303
- 1 pm Confirmation Class, off-site
- 3 pm Okuda Memorial Service
- 4:30 Youth Ministry Council, Rm 303

May 21
6:30 pm Abigail Circle, FR

May 23
9 am UMW Work Party, UMW Work Rm
6 pm UBH Board, UBH Community Rm

May 27 - Pentecost
(deadline for My Everyday Sacred Photo Project submissions)

- 8:45 am Partnership with God, Rm 101
- 10 Youth Gulf Coast Work Team, Rm 301A
- 10 am Worship
- 11 am Coffee Hour, SH
- 11 am **All-Church Picnic**, SH/CY
A lunch of hotdogs & hamburgers, various sides and drinks will be \$5 per plate, provided by the bridge. Snowcones and popcorns will be sold by the UMYF. Various activities will be taking place for all ages. There will possibly be an intergenerational Croquet game after the picnic at a nearby park. Stay tuned to the church website and to your Orders of Worship on Sunday mornings for more details!

June 3 - Food Drive
10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour, SH alcove
11:30 am UMW Awards Luncheon, SH

June 10
11 am My Everyday Sacred Photo Project Exhibit

MY EVERYDAY SACRED

My *Everyday Sacred* photo project, sponsored by Spiritual Formation Ministry, attempts to deepen our awareness of God's presence in our daily lives and allow us to share that with one another through a display of photography and written description. The deadline for submissions is **May 27**. A display of everyone's submissions will be on view during coffee hour on June 10. Project descriptions and submission instructions as well as disposable cameras (donations appreciated) are available during coffee hour in Simkins Hall on Sunday morning as well as in the church office. More information and instructions are also available on the church website in the News & Events section. Email mysacred@santamonicaumc.org if you have any questions.

A FESTIVAL OF MUSIC: JUNE 3

Our Chancel Choir's annual summer concert **A Festival of Music** will be on June 3 at 7:30 pm. Music will include *Requiem Mass in C minor* by Luigi Cherubini and *Misa Tango* by Luis Bacalov, featuring the legendary Coco Trivisonno on Bandoneón. *Misa Tango* is an exciting and compelling recent work for soloists, chorus and orchestra, featuring the Argentine accordion, the "Bandoneón." The unique yet spiritual sound of this music makes this eclectic Mass "an uplifting, life affirming work, yet full of the nostalgia of tango." Alongside our Chancel Choir, the Santa Monica College Concert Chorale and the Los Angeles Concert Orchestra will perform. For tickets, contact the church office.

NEW SIMKINS HALL IN THE SHELBY CENTER - UPDATE

Where are we on the Simkins Hall renovation project? There is much good news and many things happening! Decisions are being finalized regarding the new audio visual and sound equipment as well as the new lighting fixtures and overall lighting design. We want to make sure that we are as energy efficient and as environmentally friendly as we possibly can be. All of these decisions must be made before we begin the electrical work which is the next phase of the project. Several electrical companies have submitted bids and we are in the process of choosing the best for the project. More Simkins Hall updates will follow very soon!

"MAY" BOOK STUDY TO GATHER ON JUNE 10

Called to be Church: The Book of Acts for a New Day, by Anthony B. Robinson and Robert W. Wall, is now for sale in our Church Library. It's an unusual book, co-written by a biblical scholar and a pastor, friends for over thirty years. This collaboration is a gift to the church. The perfect book to be reading during Eastertide as we move towards Pentecost and the birth of the church, the chapters alternate between careful study of the early church in the Book of Acts and issues and challenges facing the contemporary church. This puts so much of what we currently wrestle with in context—issues of worship, mission, leadership, conflict, growing pluralism and multi-culturalism. Get going on your reading so that you'll be ready for a great discussion in June.



COME HONOR OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Every year our United Methodist Women honor our graduating high school seniors with monetary awards that can be used for books and other expenses associated with going to college or tech school. The awards for seniors was established more than 25 years ago by Ephie Stevenson in honor of her husband who was a teacher. They wanted to reward the young people who participated in the youth program and who had given time to the church in other ways. The UMW will be recognizing the recipients and their families at a luncheon in Simkins Hall on June 3 at 11:30 am and you're invited! Stay after the second worship service to fellowship with your church family, then remain for lunch and show your support of these important young people in our church who will be going forth to further their educations. The luncheon will be a salad potluck (or donation). All are welcome!

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 am

May 20, 2007 Easter Seven: Choir Recognition
Rev. Patricia Farris will give the sermon.

On this Sunday we move to our Summer Worship Schedule with one service at 10 am. This is Choir Recognition Sunday with participation by all of the church choirs. Children age 5 and up will remain in church with their families. Children through age 4 will go to their classes. Come join us!



May 27, 2007 Pentecost & All-Church Picnic
"The Before and After" Rev. Brad Beeman

Genesis 2:4b-7; Acts 2:1-21

On this Pentecost Sunday, the Acts passage about the first Pentecost will be read in many languages by members of our own congregation. Plan to stay after worship for the All-Church Picnic complete with a BBQ style lunch, fun snacks and activities for all ages.

UMCOR TORNADO RELIEF

As expected, UMCOR has provided a block of relief funds for the victims of the recent Greensburg, KS tornado, and has dispatched a relief advisor to help determine the best use of the funds. Gifts in support of this relief effort should be marked "UMCOR tornado relief."

UMCOR SEWING KITS REQUESTED

This year's Annual Conference Volunteers In Mission Project is collecting sewing kits for UMCOR, for use by refugees. Individuals, families and groups at FUMC are invited to assemble sewing kits as a special mission project. Completed kits are to be returned to the church office by **June 17**. Your support of this outreach will be much appreciated by refugees in need! Sewing kits foster independence rather than dependence. Women can make clothing in their own size and in the style of their culture. Cottage industries often grow out of the sewing classes where women use these kits to practice valuable income-generating skills. Please visit the church website for the complete list of materials and assembly instructions or visit the church office and pick up a flier.

ORGAN DONATION PROGRAM

On Sunday, May 6 the Health Ministry Council, UMW and Social Concerns Council sponsored a potluck lunch and program about organ donation with special guest Frank Field, a heart transplant recipient and One Legacy Ambassador. If you missed the program or would like more information about organ donation, please visit the Health Ministry page on the church website. Give life. Be an organ donor! www.donatelifecalifornia.org



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