



First United Methodist Church of Oroville

Vol. 30

DECEMBER 2009

Rev. Donna VanMaanen
Rev. Chuckua Yang, Hmong Ministry
Shasta District Superintendent
Benoni Silva-Netto

Rev. Laura Heffernan
Bishop of Cal/Nevada Conference
Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr.

The Golden Feather



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2009 — Oroville United Methodist Church Charge Conference

Greetings to all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! And, praise to God and through the Holy Spirit all blessings flow!!

What a wonderful year 2009 has been! I give praise for the good works everyone has done for our church. I also pray continuously that we will be appropriately equipped, become stronger, and show our faithfulness in all the many majestic ministries our Lord set out for us this coming new year.

Since the last Annual Conference Session, Bishop Warner H. Brown launched new innovative strategies for the California/Nevada Conference. One of the new visions and goals is the “District Circuits.” This strategy seeks to empower the roots of Methodism which was conceived in the Wesleyan World two centuries ago. The Methodist society was able to grow and multiply through the remarkable talents and faithful efforts of its founder, John Wesley, who started Methodism by evangelizing from home to home and meeting in small groups for prayers and Bible studies. Through the organization of these small gatherings, the United Methodist Church stands today.

Friends, The United Methodist Church succeeded in pursuing many of our goals and visions in the harvest field. However, there is more to be done. It seems as if we have slept and rested on the efforts of our founder, John Wesley. We may put God before our lives. We may live in a comfortable environment. Or, we may be the best Christian in our community. However, shouldn't we ask ourselves, “Have we grown? Have we multiplied? Is there more that we can do?” Yes! It is now our time -- in this generation and days of age -- to wake up and renew the United Methodist movement, to build upon our founder's foundation, and to refocus ourselves on new strategies and visions. We should organize our efforts to be in transition with those of our founder's so that we too can continue to grow and be fruitful.

The year 2009 is quickly ending and a new year 2010 is before us. I want to encourage all our brothers and sisters -- whether we speak Hmong or English -- to come together, to organize, to collaborate, and to support one another as “Circuits” (small groups) as in the days of Wesley. In so doing, I believe, we will grow and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus to those who are still lost. Yes! I am excited. I look forward to working with each and every one of you this new year in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. With your prayers, courage, love, and support; we will be able to succeed in pursuing God's will. Amen.

In the name of love,

Pastor Chuckua Yang

P.S. Thank you to our Hmong brothers and sisters who have been faithful in devoting your lives to Christ and committed yourselves to support our church. A special thank you to our English speaking brothers and sisters for your love and support for Hmong Ministry. There is no way that as your pastor, I can repay your kindness and thoughtfulness, but I pray that God will bless and reward you daily. Thanks be to God.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN DECEMBER:

- 1) December 5th, is Chuckua and Poyee's 30 years Anniversary celebration at the church from 10am-2pm. (ALL ARE INVITED)
- 2) December 8th, is the Conference Committee on Hmong Ministry meeting in Sacramento Trinity UMC, from 10am-2pm.
- 3) December 8, 9, 10, 11 is the Conference Committee on Hmong Ministry, pastors Academy at Lake Francis?
- 4) December 19th, is the Youth Kingdom Conference in Sacramento Trinity UMC, from 9am-3pm.
- 5) December 28, 29, 30, 31, pastor Chuckua and the youth will be going house to house praying for those who welcome.
- 6) December 31st, is the New Year Watch at church, from 7pm. potluck and activities until the New Year.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ANY

(All) OF THE EVENTS.

If you would like to purchase Christmas Poinsettias in memory of or in honor of a loved one we are taking orders. The Poinsettias will be on the Altar December 20th through New Years. Please make your check out to FUMC (First United Methodist Church) and mark Christmas Poinsettias in the Memo. You may also pay by cash. Please put in the collection plate or turn into the Church office by Wednesday, December 16th. Price of the Poinsettias is \$7.50.

In Memory of _____.

Please print name of person.

In Honor of _____.

Please print name of person.



Poinsettia placed by _____.

Phone # _____.

I will pick my plant Sunday, January 3rd _____.

Please take to a shut in _____.

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat
		1 5:30 Staff Parish Committee	2 Wednesday Service Schedule	3 Thursday Service Schedule	4 Friday Service Schedule	5 10:00 Am to 2:00 PM 30 yr. Anniversary Party 9:00 am Green the Church
6 Sunday Service Schedule "Come Home Sunday"	7 7:00 pm Trustee's	8 5:30 Staff Parrish Committee	9 Wednesday Service Schedule	10 Thursday Service Schedule	11 Friday Service Schedule	12 6:00 pm Light Parade
13 Sunday Service Schedule	14 7:00 pm Marlys Circle @ Janet Short's Home	15 5:00 pm Winston Gardens Christmas Dinner	16 Wednesday Service Schedule	17 Thursday Service Schedule	18	19 3:00 pm Wedding
20 Christian Education Program 3:00 to 5:00 Open House @ Parsonage 5:00 pm Christmas Caroling	21	22	23 Wednesday Service Schedule	24 Thursday Service Schedule 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 	26
27 Sunday Service Schedule	28	29	30	31 7:00 pm to 12:00 am Watch Night		



Marlys Circle Christmas Party

Marlys Circle will be meeting for their Christmas get-together on

Mon. Dec. 14th at 7 PM at Janet

Short's home. Bring a Christmas goodie to add to the dessert table for the evening. Also bring extra cookies, homemade candies or fruit breads which we will use to put together plates of goodies to go to shut ins and the elderly in our church family. If you have the name of someone who you would like to put on the list to receive a plate of goodies contact **Joline or Janet**. We will also be bringing personal items for the women's rescue mission. Small shampoos, soaps, deodorants, combs, brushes etc. will be appreciated.

See you then.

Joline

Bible Study Classes



I would like to remind our members that we have four bible study groups each week.

1. Sunday morning, the Adult Sunday School starts at 8:45 am in The Fireside Room.
2. Wednesday morning at 8:00 am, the Men's Bible Study meets at The Hof-Brau Restaurant.
3. Wednesday afternoon in The Fireside Room, the Bible Roundtable meets at 1:00 pm.
4. Thursday morning Cassidy's Restaurant hosts the Women's Bible Study group starting at 7:00 am.

All these groups are open; please join one, or three.

Richard Fancher, participant, Wednesday Men's Group.



SOUND BYTES

soundbuds@att.net

Still in the works:

- Completion of the sound booth
- Building a cabinet in the Social Hall for a permanent sound system setup,
- Rewire and add 2 more speakers in the social hall,
- More microphones (both wired and wireless) for sanctuary and social hall
- Assistive listening

Have a need for additional media for a Sunday Service or special occasion?

Please contact Jeremy Buis by leaving a message at the church or email at the above address.

Please have a list of media items you will need and the date(s) and time(s) you will have a need for this service.

If you are not sure what you will need, he or an associate will meet and go over it with you.

We need at least one week's notice to prepare and set up the equipment .

Fellow Church Members;

I have been asked to list projects that Trustees are considering after the roof replacement.

- 1) The parsonage needs to replace its shower curtain with a sliding glass door. This will help keep the bathroom floor dry reducing the probability of dry rot, or other problems.
- 2) The Sonwalker Band (our youth band) would like a portable amp system so they can perform at Christian events “off campus”.
- 3) Major upgrades of our in-church sound systems. We need more and better, wearable microphones. We also need a second channel of listening assistance devices, one channel for hearing impaired English listeners, and a second channel for language translation. With language translation we can do all our services as combined services.
- 4) Remodeling of Poyee’s kitchen, second bathroom, and patio deck.
- 5) Landscaping of the parsonage yards, including a sprinkler system, a new mailbox and nailing-down of the driveway deck-plates.
- 6) Major upgrading of church landscaping, starting with the area of our new marquee sign and expanding from there. (More on this next month).
- 7) Replacement of florescent tubes and ballasts in the social hall, and classrooms.
- 8) A concrete walkway through Risdon Court, connecting to the enclosed school playground, and installation of new benches in the court.
- 9) Repainting of all classrooms, the offices, and the kitchen
- 10) Repaving of our parking lot.

Richard Fancher



Christmas for our Staff

There will be a box on the table as you go into church starting on Sunday, December 6th for you to contribute to Christmas gifts for our Pastors and Staff.

Please help us make it a joyful Christmas for them.

You may also give a contribution to any member of Staff Parish committee, they are Elaine Klein, Beverley Bailey, Karen Green, Tracy Yang, Penny Vang, Vivian Grainger, John Brown, John Fowler & Joan Azevedo.



December Birthdays

12/2	Emily Heffernan
12/3	See Muas Moua
12/5	Jim Henneker
12/11	Betty Ledford
12/12	Heloise Martin
12/14	Elaine Klein
12/14	Douglas Krause
12/15	Gladeen Lebeouf
12/19	Beverly Bailey
12/26	Vivian Grainger
12/28	Karen Green
12/31	Shor Vang
12/31	Ya Kue
12/31	Xai Chur Kue
12/31	Ying Xiong Kue
12/31	Mai Kue Vang



Contact:

**Pat Foster & Emily
Fancher to sign up for a
Sunday.**



Publicity

Our publicity is being handled by Jeremy Buis and Nonie Buis. If you have an event please let them know by completing the following form.

PUBLICITY FORM

This must be filled at least three weeks before the event.

Name of event _____

Date(s) of event _____

Place of event _____

Start & Stop time of event _____

Special Information concerning event _____

Contact person and phone number _____

Email this information to: umc@1stunitedmethodist.org

December Worship

December 6

Greeters: Pat Foster

Coffee Hour: Emily & Richard Fancher

Liturgist: Rev. Laura Heffernan

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Sem Xiong

December 13

Greeters: Cathy Weitze

Coffee Hour: Erin & Micah Buis

Liturgist: Elaine Klein

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Richard Fancher

December 20

Greeters: Harriet Steiger

Coffee Hour: Emily & Richard Fancher

Liturgist: Elaine Schmidt

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Susan Sharon

December 27

Greeters: Helen Beall

Coffee Hour: Denton & Doris Ludolph

Liturgist: Rev. Laura Heffernan & Mother

Nursery Volunteer:

Lockup: Kyle Buis



DINNER @ SIX

December 2: Meatloaf, Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad, Italian Bread & Dessert. Finance Committee will be cooking.

December 9: Gogootza, Salad, Bread & Dessert. Worship Committee will be cooking.

December 16: Trustee's Committee will be cooking.

December 23: No dinner. Merry Christmas.

December 30: No dinner. Happy New Year.

Children's Christmas Play Schedule

November 29 – 1st Sunday of Advent

8:45 a.m. Children practice music with Jolene

9:00 a.m. Sunday School classes

11:00 a.m. Play rehearsal with children in Children's Church

December 4 - Youth Group

5:30 p.m. Jolene meet with Youth to practice music

December 6 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:45 a.m. Children practice music with Jolene

9:00 a.m. Handbells practice with Jolene in Room L&M

Substitutes take Sunday School classes for Elaine & Laura

11:00 a.m. Play rehearsal with children in Children's Church

December 13 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:45 a.m. Children practice music with Laura and Shirley

9:00 a.m. Handbells practice with Shirley in Room L&M

Substitutes take Sunday School classes for Elaine & Laura

11:00 a.m. Play rehearsal with children in Children's Church

Barbara prepare costumes

Week of December 13

Men put crèche, wooden sheep, decorated bulletin boards in Room L&M

December 18 - Youth Group

5:30 p.m. Jolene meet with Youth to practice music

December 19 – Youth Group

5:00 p.m. Move crèche, wooden sheep, decorated bulletin boards into Sanctuary

December 20 – 4th Sunday of Advent

8:45 a.m. Barbara dress children

9:15 a.m. Dress Rehearsal in Sanctuary -Children, youth, handbells
Jeremy – hand mike, stand mike up front



**See Jolene
or Laura
for
questions.
Thank you
all and
Merry
Christmas!**



Joys and Concerns:

Remember those in our church family in need of prayers:

David Dewey's mom - being treated for a blood clot in her eye; Mee Lee Xiong - needs continued prayers; Selena Heffernan - anticipation of a medical procedure and recently ill; Joel Valder - needs prayers for a successful job search; Elaine Klein - had recent surgery on her knees; Pastor Laura - recently ill with a fever; Joline Hibbard - has a friend, Sandy, suffering from lung cancer, is terminal & in hospice; Bruce Barton - had a reaction to a spider bite and also needs travel prayers; Max & Joan Smith - Max in Oroville Hospital for bleeding from the bladder; Jane - suffering from cancer; Rachel Brown's aunt Robin - fighting cancer; and John Schmidt - has been ill & taking awhile to recover.

Those with ongoing concerns: Kenneth Felice; Max Smith; Wright & Elaine Larkey; Theresa Abernathy; Skip Shelton; Tim Witzche; Wang & Yer Vang; Kathleen Sharkey; Alice Pittman; Roy Stai; Sara Green; Spencer Bateman; Ann Boudrot; Darin Petty; Tracy Hayes; Katie & John Voos; Haley Warren; David Jacobsen; Ted Beall; Michael Grainger; Bobby Ludolf; Loraine Hiett; Ross & Wendi Ewalt; Bruce Barton; Pat Foster; Lynn Barnett; Chris Barnes; Mary Ruth Heffernan; Betty Ball; Gail Leonard; Virginia Field; Gladeen LeBoeuf; Harriet Steiger; Doris Miller; Sue Fredericksen; Father of Tyler Yang; Jeff Felice; Pastor Donna's cousin Elizabeth; Gladys James; Ka's mom - Khou; Mee Lee Xiong; Rachel Brown & family & Tristan Brown; Jeremy Buis; Margaret Brown; Suzanne Love; Emily Heffernan and Tong Xiong.

Prayers for all people suffering from natural disasters including people in the Phillipines who suffered in the recent typhoon.

Those suffering loss of a loved one: Continue to pray for the friends & family of John Church who passed away on October 18, 2009; John Webber, Sue Webber-Brown, and the McLellan family upon the loss of their daughter Heidi McLellan; Gerry Miller & family upon the loss of her niece Shannon; the family of Maxine Dyer who passed away recently; the family of Gwen Howard who passed away recently. All the families of the victims at the Fort Hood massacre.

The family of Emery Field, he passed away on Nov. 29th. There will be a service at our church at a later date.

Joys:

New Members: Joining our church on November 1st were Kathy Weitze by Profession of Faith & Elaine Schmidt by transfer.

Birthday: Troy Harmon celebrated his 11th birthday!! Happy Birthday!!

Praise: Doris Miller is back at her ranch & has completed her final radiation treatment. Pastor Laura reports that they had a wonderful, and restful vacation.

Homecoming: Linda Perry's son is back from Israel.



Food Closet

Thank you to everyone who has been keeping our Food Closet so well stocked. It is rewarding when people call in need of food and we are able to fill that need.

Please bring only non perishable food items and be mindful of expiration dates. We cannot give out food that has expired.

CHRISTMAS

PAST



PLAN LUNCHEON—Conferring on plans for the annual December luncheon to be held Thursday by Women's Society of Christian Service of First Methodist Church are, from left, Mrs. Floyd Ball, chairman of decorations, Mrs. William Sanford, general chairman, and Mrs. Bryan Lane, chairman of the ticket sales.



December Luncheon 1958

PREPARE FOR LUNCHEON—From left, Mrs. Mildred Lane, ticket chairman, Mrs. Jack Ripnev, decorations chairman, and Mrs. William Sanford, general chairman, go over last minute details for the annual December luncheon sponsored by the WSCS of the First Methodist church.



SANTA'S VISIT — Children in Orville's only cooperative pre-school received a visit from Santa Claus last week. The children are Andy Shaw, Amy Powell, Celina Sandoval, Pat Jones, Laura Jones, Holly Taylor, Eric Taylor, Stephanie Berts, Cody Richardson, Aleta Buford, David Keenan and Darrel Gardner.

The pre-school, held at the United Methodist Church, operates Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Nancy Shaw, one of the mothers who gives one morning a week, said there are openings in the pre-school. For more information call Mrs. Shaw at 525-8218.

Memory Photo by Liberty Lane




WHAT'S COOKING? — Starting preparations for the Woman's Society of Christian Service annual Christmas luncheon and bazaar were Mrs. James Clark, stew taster and waitress chairman, and Mrs. Rudi Messerschmidt, gen-

eral chairman, who puts the casserole into the oven. The luncheon will be Thursday from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the First Methodist Church building on Acacia Avenue at Highlands Boulevard.



Christmas 1986

Congratulations!



Kyle Buis
has been named Memory Register's
Dec. Carrier Of The Month
Kyle is
10 Years Old
Attending Stanford School

CARRIER of the MONTH

Sunday Service Schedule

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Oroville

Celebrating Over 150 Years Serving The Oroville Community

Adult's & Children's Sunday School	8:45 a.m.
Hmong Service	8:45 a.m.
Children's Bells	10:00 a.m.
Hmong Adult's & Youth Sunday School	10:10 a.m.
English Service	10:30 a.m.
Children's Church	11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Schedule

Bible Study & Breakfast @ Hofbrau	8:00 a.m.
Bible Round Table & Prayer	1:30 p.m.
Community Prayer Service	4:20 - 5:20 p.m.
Bell Choir	4:30 - 6:00 pm
Dinner @ Six each Wed. Sept. to May	6:00 p.m.

Thursday Schedule

Bible Study & Breakfast @ Cassidy's	7:30 a.m.
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Friday Schedule

Sonwalkers Youth Group Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Hmong Ladies Choir Practice	5:30 p.m.

Our mission is to know Christ and make Christ known: to nurture our relationship with God and our commitment to Jesus Christ, to invite others into the community of faith, to equip, send and support Christians for daily witness and service.