



## CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH, 2012

### THE OPPORTUNITY TO RETHINK LENT

#### Lent 2012 Begins February 22nd – Leads Us to Easter

We all know what Lent is about...don't we? Isn't it about hearing sermons on sin, about feeling guilty and about our need for penitence and repentance? Or isn't it about giving up seemingly innocent things like chocolate – even if we don't know why? Well, maybe not.

Sarah Parsons, author of *A Clearing Season*, suggests that it's time to rethink Lent. She suggests we view Lent as a "positive opportunity to pause, consider and renew your relationship with God." It is a time to do the "gentle, gradual work of opening one's heart and mind to God's grace."

Campbell UMC will RETHINK LENT IN 2012. During Lent we'll have the opportunity to experience powerful worship services that draw us more fully into God's presence. We'll attend our ever-popular Soup and Study program that will deepen our faith and grow our commitment to service. We'll participate in a variety of small spiritual development groups. We'll prepare for Easter as never before.

You are invited...encouraged...called to do Lent this year in a new and exciting way. News of these many opportunities is enclosed in this issue of Connections. Please read and respond!

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### SUNDAY WORSHIP in LENT

#### "Embracing the Faith for Lent"

The 5 Sundays in Lent will not focus on the traditional "giving up something for Lent" but instead on "EMBRACING THE FAITH FOR LENT."

Each Service will combine  
music

visual arts,

prayer

words

*continued on p. 7*

### TUESDAY SOUP and STUDY

These are the key elements in Campbell Church's popular and highly successful Lenten Soup Supper and Study programs. . .

- A simple meal
- Engagement with a contemporary social challenge
- Sharing Holy Communion with Friends

*continued on p. 7*

### LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

#### START DATE

<i>Women's Spiritual Study</i>	Feb. 21
<i>Methodist 101</i>	Feb. 26
<i>Sunday Worship</i>	Feb. 26
<i>Tuesday Soup &amp; Supper</i>	Feb. 28
<i>Conversations</i>	
<i>with the Bible</i>	Feb. 29
<i>Men's Lenten Retreat</i>	March 10

## Campbell Connections

A monthly publication of  
Campbell United Methodist Church

**Editor - Heather Reynolds**  
**Copy Proofing - Dave Foyle**  
**Gail Jacobs**

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the 3rd Wednesday\* of each month.  
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Submit article to Church Office  
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\*If there are 5 Wednesdays in a month  
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be on the 3rd Wednesday.

If you have any questions regarding  
the mailing, please call the office at  
408-378-3472



**CAMPBELL UMC is a RECONCILING  
CONGREGATION**



### CHURCH STAFF

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**VOLUNTEER YOUTH COORDINATOR**

**Melinda Knepp**

**CUSTODIAN, Hector Estrada**

**Church Office: 408 378-3472**

**Web Site: [www.campbellunited.org](http://www.campbellunited.org)**



**Sunday Worship: 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.**

**Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.**

**Children's Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.**

**African Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.**

*(1st & 3rd Sundays)*

**New Creation UMC Worship: 12:30 p.m.**

**Quiet Communion: 6:00 p.m. Tuesday**

### Bright Days Preschool

Mary Smith, Director: 408-378-8422

[www.brightdayspreschool.com](http://www.brightdayspreschool.com)



## Pastor's Point of View

*Dear Campbell Friends:*

*For the past several weeks my sermons have focused on scripture that motivated and guided the formation of the Methodist Movement. There's also a contemporary formula that describes the movement. Let me share it with you.*

*The United Methodist Followers of Jesus Christ*

*Believe They Have . . .*

### **ONE MISSION**

*To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World*

### **TWO GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

*You Shall Love the Lord Your God with All Your Heart, Soul, Mind and  
Strength*

*- and a second is like it -*

*You Shall Love Your Neighbor as You Love Yourself*

### **THREE MINISTRY STRATEGIES**

*Do Justice • Love Kindness • Walk Humbly with God*

### **FOUR RESOURCES FOR FAITH, WITNESS AND MISSION**

*Scripture (always first)*

*Reason • Tradition • Experience*

### **FIVE MINISTRY PRACTICES**

*Radical Hospitality*

*Passionate Worship*

*Intentional Faith Development*

*Risk-Taking Mission and Ministry*

*Extravagant Generosity*

*This sounds like an exciting church to me!*

*This sounds like the church Campbell UMC is striving to be!*

*Pastor Jim*



## “For Love:” A Benefit Concert for ‘Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence’

The San Jose Peace Chorale joins with other local choirs on Saturday, February 25th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Campbell UMC Sanctuary, hosting their 2nd annual Benefit Concert for Next Door Solutions. Tickets are \$20 at the door. The San Jose Peace Chorale will be joined by the Orchard City Community Chorus, the Silicon Valley Gay Men’s Chorus, Ladiesong, the Rainbow Women’s Chorus, the Mission Valley Chorus, and the Joyful Noise Gospel Singers, as they present a lively evening of song and hope. ❖



## SPRING LUNCHEON

The Women’s Service Club of Campbell will host their annual Spring Luncheon on Saturday, March 17th, 2012. All are welcome to come and help celebrate GOING GREEN FOR SPRING! Wonderful Silent Auction baskets will be available for viewing and bidding, beginning at 11:30 a.m., with luncheon being served at noon. You can purchase your luncheon tickets from Fran Sneed (408-378-7539) or Lou Woodburycattcott (408-246-5087) for a donation of \$15.00. Please purchase your

tickets no later than Sunday, March 11th. All proceeds will go towards scholarships for high school seniors in the Campbell Union High School district. ❖

## Endowment Update

Last month we said that there would be a seminar in April about leaving a legacy .

NOTE: Due to a change in schedules the seminar on LEAVING A LEGACY will be held on **April 21, 2012 at 10:00 am** in the Fireside Room.

This last week there have been a couple of articles in the San Jose Mercury News about planning for end of life. Like planning to leave a legacy, one needs to have written instructions on how you wish to be cared for in the final stages of life.

Most of us know how we want life to end but most of us don’t put our wishes in writing. When we do not have something in writing we put undue pressure on our loved ones to make the decisions for us and this becomes very difficult for them. The emotional, financial and physical toll that it takes on our families can be eased by taking time to write down your wishes.

One of the pressures comes when the doctors want to do one more procedure to extend a person’s life. It is important to remember that it is the doctor’s training to do what they can to extend life. With the expanding cost of health care the question is: Will the procedure help you have a reasonable active life? Do you want to do a procedure that will not likely provide you a good quality of life?

Think about the following: Do you want a breathing tube to sustain

your life? Do you want the doctors to keep you alive by giving you nutrients and water through a tube? Do you want to live in an irreversible coma or persistent vegetative state?

As good stewards of life, we need to make our own decisions to end life with dignity.

Terry Johnson, For the Endowment Committee ❖

## 50+ Group

On March 15, 2012 the 50 Plus group will go to the Computer History Museum in Mt. View. The tours will begin 1 pm. We will split into groups- one will be led by Jim Strickland. The second tour will be led by Stan Paddock. The cost per person is \$15.00, \$12(Seniors). Sign-up on February 26 and March 4 at Fellowship time, or contact Dick Meehan at 253-8109 by March 9 to secure a space. ❖

## Gearing Up for Summer



## Sunday School and Call for Volunteers

Each summer, we give our wonderful Sunday School teachers a break and create a one-room Sunday School class. This year, we would like to ask if there are volunteers from the congregation who would be willing to help out for Summer Sunday School. Just choose a Sunday that you know you’ll be in town, and let us know that you are willing to help. Thank you! Please contact Jenni Martin at her email address: [jmartin@cdm.org](mailto:jmartin@cdm.org).

Jenni Martin, Children’s Ministry Council ❖

# In the COMMUNITY

## Alternative Gift Faire Thank You's

**InnVision** Thanks the church for the gift of \$20 . For more information on InnVision, go to: [www.InnVision.org](http://www.InnVision.org).

**EMQ Families First** is thankful for the gift of \$175 which they will use to continue to help children and families in the community - especially needed during this time of cut-backs. For more information about them, go to: [www.emqff.org](http://www.emqff.org).

**Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley** expresses their heartfelt appreciation of the \$40 contributed from Campbell UMC. They have a beautiful website at: <http://www.wcsv.org/>

**Heifer International** thanks the church for the generous gift of \$1,833, where it has already been put to work toward igniting transformation in families and projects all over the world. More information at: [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)

**Family Supportive Housing** thanks the church for the generous gift of \$605, to help provide essential services to over 185 homeless families. More information at: [www.familysupportivehousing.org](http://www.familysupportivehousing.org)

**Church World Service (below)** sent thanks and a certificate in appreciation of our help with natural and human-caused disasters. More information at: [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org)

## Upcoming Events Church & Society

Church & Society wants to alert you to four important upcoming events:

- On Saturday morning, February 25th, Assemblyman Jim Beall will host a breakfast and budget meeting at the Campbell Community Center Orchard City Banquet Hall. Assemblyman Beall will be discussing the Governor's proposed budget which will work some extreme hardships on the poorest segments of our society. The Assemblyman needs to hear from the citizens about our values.

- Starting in March, Church & Society will be sponsoring a morning snack on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Rosemary School. We need donations and volunteers. Donations may be made to the Rosemary School Fund at Campbell United Methodist Church.

- Assemblyman Jim Beall will be our speaker for the Tuesday evening, March 6th Lenten Soup Supper. He will be addressing how to live out your faith in a difficult environment.

- On March 25th, Church & Society will sponsor a community active listening session for parents in the



Campbell Unified School District. The focus will be on the percentage of kids graduating with the necessary requirements to attend a U.C. or C.S.U. campus. Right now, that number is less than 50%. We will focus on what can be done to improve that situation.

These are all important events, and Church & Society urges you to attend and tell your friends about each event.

Franklin Bondonno, Church & Society ❖

## INTERFAITH EVENT AT PACIFICA INSTITUTE



The interfaith Book Group, consisting of sixteen women from Campbell UMC and Pacifica Institute (an organization of Muslim Turkish-Americans living in Silicon Valley) has started meeting to discuss the two Silicon Valley Reads books for 2012. The books are "The Muslim Next Door" by Sumbul Ali-Karamali and "The Butterfly Mosque" by G. Willow Wilson. The meetings are an inspiring opportunity for open and trusting conversation about our different faiths.

Last week the Campbell UMC women in the group were invited to take part in Pacifica Institute's second annual Noah's Pudding (Ashure) contest. We were assigned to teams led by one or two of the Turkish women. A day or two before the contest we went to our leader's house to help make the traditional Ashure pudding. The gatherings were filled with laughter and fun, as we chopped dried fruits and stirred the big pot. It was a privilege to be invited to our leader's house. As well as doing most of the work involved in the pudding preparation our hostess provided a delicious Turkish dinner.

Ashure commemorates the coming to rest of Noah's ark on Mount Ararat (in what is now Turkey). The people on the ark wanted to celebrate their survival, but had very little food left. Yet they managed to collect enough little scraps of food for a feast and they mixed everything together into a pudding and shared it amongst everyone. These days the ingredients depend on the cook's imagination, but are primarily legumes,

*continued on p. 8*

# Methodist C.o.n.n.e.c.t.i.o.n

## United Methodist Women

### BOOK REVIEW

**Like Breath and Water Praying with Africa** by Ciona D. Rouse



**Category:** Education Mission 2012

**Rating:** \*\*\*\*\* stars

#### Review:

Here we are starting out the 2012 UMW Book Reviews. It was difficult picking out which book I wanted to start with this year. We do have many great books to read, and so little time. Let's get started... I decided my first review would be on *Breath and Water, Praying with Africa*.

When I ordered this book, I thought it would be a quick read. 96 pages...I can read this in a snap! But as I sat down to read this book, I found myself lost in the prayers, the personal journeys, and the compassion these wonderful people had for life and God. I cannot tell their stories as they do. Here is an excerpt from Pg 72-73. At the *Come Back Mission*, Cheryl invited each to light a candle and confess or share a prayer request. Everyone – addicts, victims, and leaders alike - shared a part of his or her story. A visitor cried as she openly acknowledged her recent HIV-positive diagnosis to people she did not know...

#### Prayer

*Thank you God, for having a plan far greater than anything we can imagine. You bring down walls of injustice that we build. You loosen chains of addiction with which we shackle ourselves. You turn our setbacks into comebacks. For that, we are grateful. Even as we trust in your will, Lord, we confess that we cannot always make sense of diseases that burden us; we can't make sense of extreme wealth while people die in poverty; we don't always know why bad things happened to those we love.*

*We confess that it is not always well with our souls. Sometimes the yoke feels to heavy to bear.*

*But we believe in resurrection Lord. We see it with every rainbow that greets us in a storm.*

*We have experienced resurrection in our lives through your Son's powerful story.*

*Heal us; heal this world, we pray. Heal us within your powerful will. Amen.*

This is only part of the story and prayer in the Healing chapter. For those of you who choose to read this book, it will definitely be worth the time you spend pondering the words, soaking in the images and praying the prayers; and yes, praying them more than once.

Don't miss this year's book reviews because we not only have a book for our youth, we have a couple for our teens that they will enjoy.

Susan Jones ❖

### 5 STAR PROGRAM

The National Organization of United Methodist Women (UMW) encouraged all units to work toward the 5 STAR Program - when all the goals are met, the Cal-Nevada Conference UMW gives recognition to every unit.

#### The 5 Goals to be met are:

1. Annual Pledge to Mission (Campbell's is \$8,000).
2. Special Mission Recognition - members of our church demonstrate "above and beyond" with volunteering, support for church and community.
3. Gift to Mission - honoring a UMW member
4. Gift in Memory - memorial for deceased member
5. World Thank Offering - Campbell UMW are consistent in meeting these goals.

*We are also recognized by the*

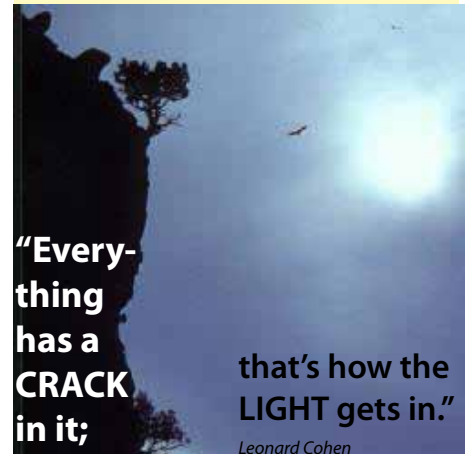
*Conference as a Mission Today Unit - very detailed efforts go toward reaching this level of recognition.*

Darlene Dyer, UMW Executive ❖

### SAVE THE DATE!

**United Methodist Women's Spring Luncheon, "Once Upon A Time", to be held on Saturday, April 28 in Fellowship Hall.**

*Details to follow in the next Campbell Connections.*



### Mission Springs Spiritual Retreat

**March 16-18, 2012**

This yearly retreat for United Methodist Women has two speakers this year: Kathi McShane, a UM clergy who is currently serving as Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, and Shirley Stephenson, a long-time member of San Ramon Valley UMC. Shirley is a leader of Women's Faith Sharing groups and a Stephen Ministry Leader. She studied Spiritual Direction at Mercy Center.

If there are any of you attending this retreat at Mission Springs Conference Center, please bring back stories and pictures to share with us next month.

For more information, speak to Sally Wenzel, UMW chairperson ❖

## Circuit Writer



### A Spiritual Exercise for Lent

Rev. Larry LaPierre

When I was young the question we faced every Lent was this: "What are you going to give up?" Those of us who were Catholics have reason to remember this. The theory appeared to be that if we gave up something important to us, like candy or . . . (What else was there to give up when we were ten years old?), we would be preparing ourselves, in a small way, to understand the sacrifice that Jesus made on Good Friday.

Time has gone by, and it no longer seems like a real spiritual preparation for Holy Week to simply give up something we like. We need to be more proactive. We need to do something that will help us to grow stronger as spiritual persons—people who would gladly sacrifice ourselves in the service of God's Kingdom.

What can we do? Yes, there are Lenten Bible studies. There are the Tuesday Lenten suppers with speakers who will challenge our perceptions of what faith means. There are plenty of opportunities to give time, money and love to help those in need. We can even devote more time to private prayer and studying the Bible. I'm not suggesting that we abandon any of these and several other ways to grow as spiritual people.

I am suggesting that we can do something about examining our faith. I was first given this opportunity in 1983 when I was part of a seminar on spiritual aspects of healing. Five of us met once a week to examine what role spirituality played in healing.

Near the end of the seminar, the group leader asked us to come back the following week with a statement of what we believed as spiritual people. That is what I am suggesting that each of us undertake as a daily Lenten discipline. Pick one or more of your favorite creeds (there are ten in the back of the UMC Hymnal), and each day read

a phrase or two and ask yourself, "Do I believe this phrase or this statement? If I do believe it, what does it mean to me? How has it been helpful in my spiritual growth? How might it continue to be a means of spiritual growth for me?"

Of course, there is a dark side to this examination of what we believe. We may discover that we don't believe something in one or more creeds! What then? Well, we could ask ourselves two questions: 1) Why don't I believe this? 2) What DO I believe instead?

Over the six weeks of Lent two

outcomes may emerge. We may be strengthened as spiritual persons by examining and clarifying what we believe. We may discover that we want/need to study further, perhaps with others, what the history and implications of our creeds are. Speak to Pastor Jim about forming a group after Lent to delve more deeply into the meaning of our creeds both as United Methodist Christians and as individual believers with questions about faith that may lead us "outside the box."

Rev. Larry LaPierre ❖

## A Heartfelt Prayer

Dear God,

*My Love Heart is full. Full of gratitude for my family and loved ones. Full of joy at the friendships that I've made, both near and far. Full of wonder for the beauty of the earth and its trees and flowers and plants and creatures. Full to the brimming.*

*My Love Heart is filled with longing. Longing to spend time with those I love. Longing to do what is right. Longing to find answers. Longing to go. Longing to be still. Longing to be healed. Longing to give.*

*My Love Heart is beating steadily. Beating in rhythm. Beating to the tune of a different drummer. Beating a world beat. Beating in harmony with many. Beating in discord with some. Beating unevenly in the face of fear. Beating quickly. Beating softly. Beating strongly.*

*My Love Heart is red. Blood red. Human connection red. Red hot pepper red. Fiery red. Passion-filled red. Cup of wine red. Salvation red. Deep red.*

*Lord, My Love Heart is small. Small when I am scared. Small when I feel different. Small in anger. Small in divisiveness. Small when I forget to honor each person. Small compared to Your Vast Love Heart.*

*My Love Heart is weeping. Sad for others, for myself. Frustrated by things I cannot change. Out of control. Can't seem to make a difference.*

*My Love Heart is cracking. Cracking under pressure. Cracking with grief. Cracking with impatience. Cracking under the weight of the world.*

*My Love Heart is breaking. Breaking down. Breaking in. Breaking apart.*

*My Love Heart is breaking. Breaking through. Breaking open. Letting the light in.*

*My Love Heart is growing. Reaching. Fighting for life. Expanding. Blossoming.*

*My Love Heart is bursting. Bursting with possibilities. Bursting with hope for what can be. Bursting to share what I have learned. Bursting with gratitude.*

*Help me, Oh God, to let my Love Heart grow as big as yours. Let mine be A Love Heart that can hold the complexities of this world without having to take sides. Let me have A Love Heart that can connect with each soul. Let my Love Heart feel the beat of every kind of music. Help me find the strength to let my Love Heart give freely, without asking for anything in return. Help my Love Heart to be filled with grace. Help me, Oh God, to love as You do.*

Jenni Martin ❖

## SUNDAY WORSHIP in LENT

*continued from p. 1*

to invite worshippers to renew and deepen their commitments to following Jesus Christ.

Inspiration will be drawn from scriptures such as

- for Feb. 26th - Mark 17:1-18
- for Mar. 4th - Luke 19:1-10
- for Mar. 11th - Matthew 18:21-35
- for Mar. 18th - 2 Timothy 4:6-13
- for Mar. 25th - Mark 11:1-11

Worship Services will be on each Sunday at 9:00 am and 10:30 am in the Sanctuary. And, as always, "Whoever You Are and Wherever You Are on Your Faith Journey, You Are Welcome Here!"

*See you in church this Lenten season. ❖*



## MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT

**MARCH 10, 2012**

Campbell UMC men will join with men from other area United Methodist Churches for a day of reflection, spiritual growth and fellowship. Courageous, the insightful recent movie will be shown, contemporary Christian music will be sung and Ted Larson, of Los Gatos UMC, will lead the program.

An added bonus is that breakfast and lunch are included in the experience.

The Retreat will take place on Saturday, March 10th from 8:00 am until 3:30 pm at the Los Altos UMC.

*All Interested MEN are invited to attend! ❖*

## TUESDAY SOUP and STUDY

*continued from p. 1*

These are the key results in this challenging and change-inducing series. . .

- A new awareness of crucial community Issues
- New commitment to being change agents
- Sensing Christ's call to be the Church in a new, powerful way.

The Soup and Study programs will meet at 6:00 pm on Tuesdays during Lent beginning on Tuesday, February 28th. The Fireside Room will serve as the location.

**We are especially pleased this year to have Assemblyman Jim Beall as one of our Guest Speakers. Mr. Beall represents the 24th California Assembly District which includes Campbell, Saratoga and portions of Los Gatos and San Jose. He will speak from a politician's point of view about the key social issues in our community when we meet on March 6th.**

A full listing of programs and speakers can be seen at the Soup and Study in Fellowship Hall.

*EVERYONE is invited to attend these informative and challenging sessions. ❖*

## WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL STUDY

A small group experience for women of all ages provides an intimate opportunity for reflection and growth. The group will use the book, "**The Clearing Season: Reflections for Lent.**" by Sara Parsons to guide this time of intentional spiritual development.

This group will meet on Tuesdays during Lent at 9:30 am in the Library. Please note that it is getting a "head-start" on Lent by beginning on Tuesday, February 21st.

*All Interested WOMEN are most welcome to attend. ❖*

## CONVERSATIONS WITH THE BIBLE

### A LENTEN BIBLE STUDY Led by Pastor Jim

Pastor Jim is looking forward to leading a series of Lenten "Conversations With The Bible." Each week he will make a brief presentation on how to read the Bible and then lead a discussion of your questions about the Bible. Each individual participating in the class will grow in their understanding of the Bible and in his or her relationship with God.

The study will meet on Wednesdays during Lent, beginning on Wednesday, Feb. 29th. It will meet at 12:00 noon in the church Library.

You are invited to bring a brown-bag lunch with you. Hot and cold drinks will be provided.

*All Interested PERSONS are welcome to attend! ❖*



## UNITED METHODIST 101

### An Old Class with a New Twist

This popular class returns for all persons interested in membership at Campbell UMC. Those who participate in this class will join the church on Palm Sunday, April 1st, 2012.

And here's the new twist: Other persons interested in further exploration of core Christian and Methodist beliefs are also invited to attend and deepen faith by refocusing on the "basics" of the faith.

United Methodism 101 will meet on Sunday Mornings from Feb 26th through Mar 25th at 10:30 am in the Fireside Room.

*All Interested PERSONS are welcome to participate. ❖*

# INTERFAITH EVENT AT PACIFICA INSTITUTE

*continued from p. 4*

wheat, rice, nuts, figs, apricots, pomegranates, raisins, sugar and water. The puddings are shared among friends and neighbors.

The Pacifica pudding contest took place on February 11th, with a feast and then the judging. Competition was fierce, with puddings judged on the basis of presentation, taste and texture. There were five judges from the Sunnyvale community, including the Vice-Mayor. The winning team was California Zing - our very own: Elaine Bondonno, Ginny Johnson and Sue Foyle, along with Ozgu Elci from the Pacifica Institute. The secret to success, according to Ginny, was "add plenty of sugar."

If you want to know more about the local branch of Pacifica Institute, you can find information on their website at <http://pacificasv.org/> They are a remarkable group of people.

Sue Edson ❖



The winning pudding



Experts in the kitchen: Nurdan, Nurcan and Nihal



The winning group - California Zing



Noah's Roses group: L to R, Nurcan, Sue, Jan, Heather, Nurdan

## CARTOON CORNER



## HISTORY HELPERS

"snippets from our past"

FROM 1942

*This info is from the May 1942 issue of "The Orchard City Methodist".*

COMING--"One Foot In Heaven"

Through a special arrangement with the Campbell Theater the Methodist Church Finance Committee is sponsoring a SPECIAL MATINEE of the excellent movie "One Foot In Heaven."

May 11, at 3:15 pm

Tickets: Adults 35 cents

Students 25 cents (student body cards, please)

Children 6-12, 11 cents

If attending MON. or TUES. be sure to secure your tickets from the Methodist Church.

A PICTURE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.



## UMYF TALKING "LISTEN UP"

### CALENDAR

**sunday, february 26**  
movie and pizza night  
5:30 pm

**sunday, march 4**  
youth group mtg/VBS planning  
11:45 am

**sunday, march 11**  
bishop's confirmation retreat  
high school event -TBA

**sunday, march 18**  
laser tag

**sunday, march 25**  
youth group mtg  
11:45 am

## "SUPER SUNDAY"

On Sunday, February 5, the youth hosted an awesome "Souper" Bowl Potluck. Everyone had a lot of fun, and we all laughed a little bit. Some of the highlights included Christian's video comparing football games to stories in the bible, and a hilarious game of Bible-Football Family Feud. We would like to thank everyone who brought or helped with food, and the congregation for pitching to help us raise money. In total, we raised over seven hundred dollars. That money will be going on a trip with the middle-schoolers to Glide Memorial.

Audrey Twilleager, UMYF

## SAVE THE DATE

Plans for Vacation Bible School are underway. As you plan your vacations this summer keep the week of June 25 to June 29 open so that your kids can enjoy a fun week at VBS. Keep an eye out for more information in the coming weeks.

Melinda Knepp,  
Youth Coordinator ❖



## CAMP NEWS

## SUMMER CAMP

The dates for summer camps are set! If your children have not yet had the opportunity to attend one of these camps yet, you will want to get them registered for this summer. If they have already been, they will be asking you to sign them up right away.

Monte Toyon Camps in Aptos run July 8 - 13. These camps include Toyon Kids (3rd- 6th grade), Camp quest (7th-9th grade) and Toyon LIT (Leaders In Training 14-15 years old).

You can find registration forms and more information regarding Toyon Camps and other conference camps at <http://cnumc.org/site/search?keywords=camps>. If you have any questions about camp or camperships you can call Melinda Knepp at 408-247-3577.

## 4/5TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

This year the 4th & 5th graders have enjoyed getting to know one another in youth group. We are meeting once or twice a month. They are learning to work together through fun games such as wrap your partner as a snowman with toilet paper. They discovered this isn't as easy as it seemed. They have encouraged one another in Minute to Win it Games such as blow the bubble 15 feet through a hula hoop, junk in your trunk, relays with cotton balls on your nose.



We additionally met with Pastor Jim so that the kids and he got to know each other a little better. We have had a fun trip to see a movie and are looking forward to going Mini Golf in Feb.

The kids did a great job of baking cookies as part of a service project to the church for a fund raiser to go to the general budget and Merry Mayhem. They had a great time and did a terrific job.



We are enjoying getting to know these wonderful kids.

Andrea Taylor and Patty Henderson,  
4/5th Youth coordinators ❖



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Next Newsletter **DEADLINE**

**March 14, 2011**

**Return Service Requested**

People reaching out, with open minds, souls and hearts -

Nourishing spirituality

Engaging creativity

Building social justice

Providing loving, welcoming community

- for Christ and the world.

