



Words from your District Superintendent:

I am encouraged as I experience, hear about, and read about how our Delta District UMC's are "rethinking church." Even more than that, I am thankful to God as I realize and see the fruits of your ministries.

I want to highlight churches/communities who are in the 'riveting' process of "rethinking church" as we are all in the process of "rethinking conference." In the coming newsletters I will be highlighting these disciple-making/equipping ministries. Let me know how your church is doing in this process to "rethink church."

Some months ago, a pastor in our conference from Firebaugh UMC, Bert Roper, wrote some ideas (also, he has a great conjugation of 'church' as a verb) about what "rethink church" means. He wrote:

"I liked the phrase when I first heard it. 'Rethink Church.' Before I even knew what the campaign was about and how it would present itself, I was excited. It is, and has been for quite some time, obvious to me that if we continue to do what we have been doing as the church (both locally and globally), we are going to be irrelevant to an awful lot of people in the world today. Not because our message isn't relevant - far from it. Not because our hearts aren't in it - far from it. Not because we misunderstand Jesus' command that we are to take the gospel to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the world. Far from it. It is because we have gotten too comfortable with things as they are:

You know how it is when you get comfortable. You fall into a predictable routine, . . .

Sometimes we leave our comfort zone grouching and grumbling and sputtering because we need to do something we forgot to do . . . Sometimes we are startled out of our comfort zone by the shot of adrenaline that comes (with a crisis)...

'Rethinking Church' is different. It just calls us out of our comfort zone...by asking, 'What if 'church' was not a noun, but a verb?' We could say, 'Let's go do church today.' Since Doug Anderson pointed out in a recent workshop that United Methodists in the United States invites someone to go to church with them an average of once every 37 years, maybe we would do better to ask someone to go do church with us."

How are the churches of the Delta District "doing church," "being church," and living out our mandate to "make disciples"?

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8

Blessings be with you all as we "rethink church" together

Pastor Mariellen fresnods@sbcglobal.net

Words from your District Superintendent:

In this merry month of "May," I pray that it might indeed be the season of great joy and peace in your life, a season when the beauty of all creation fills you with a sense of awe, wonder and happiness; not just sneezing and the allergies that are also a part of the time.

In our house, we always experience May to be one of the busiest of all months. It is the month when the activities of the fall and winter begin to come to a close AND all of the activities of summer are just itching to get off the ground. School is drawing to a close, teachers are frantically trying to 'cram it all in' before the year ends, AND, well you get the picture. However, it is also a season to celebrate and give thanks for the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the central event of our faith that makes the Christian experience possible. Out of the ruin of death and despair, God has done wondrous things for us and made new life possible for us all. From the Christian perspective, we come to see that life is a series of endings so that new beginnings can be possible. That is the gift of the resurrection. Before, things began and ended; now they end so that new beginnings might happen.

An important part of a new beginning comes in our church every year. It is our Annual Conference to be held in the Sacramento Convention Center from June 16-19. If you are a member of the conference, I know you are busy making plans to attend and to make your presence known. This year will mark a different kind of a conference because our bishop is proposing some dramatic changes in the way our church functions. It is part of our denominations 'RETHINK CHURCH' program. On our agenda will be several legislative items that will have an impact on every one of us in the church we all love.

*The conference this year also has some great ways to be involved. Every evening activity is open to all, as in years past. This year the conference is bringing Bishop Robert Schnase to our conference to lead several sessions designed just for the laity. You might know this bishop as the author of "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations," a book that has had a tremendous impact in the church. Every event led by the bishop is open for all to attend. Did you get that? **ALL!** Bishop Schnase is a gifted church leader and a compelling speaker. I promise you will not be disappointed.*

Another activity for all is our Delta District Picnic that will be on the capital grounds on Friday, June 18 at 5:30PM. To be part of this, we need your reservation. Please call Cindy at the district office if would like to be a part of this as well.

These are exciting days and as followers of Jesus Christ, we know the future is in good hands—God's hands. We need to be the ones who step out in faith and make a difference in this confused world. Please continue to be there with your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service.

See you soon, *Jerry Smith*

nsdistumc@sbcglobal.net

Annual Conference, Wednesday June, 16 through Saturday June 19



Sacramento Convention Center
Get information or register on-line at www.cnumc.org

Prayer Calendar

- May 16 First UMC, Sacramento
- May 23 Rancho Cordova UMC
- May 30 Fair Oaks UMC
- June 6 First UMC, Tracy
- June 13 Placerville Federated
- June 20 Patterson Federated

Delta District Dinner/Picnic, Capitol Park from 5:30 to 7:30 on Friday, June 18th, come join us for Italian Meatball Sandwiches, Antipasto Pasta Salad, Caesar Salad, Fruit Salad, Desert and drink. Cost is \$12.00 per person. Dinner is open to first 125 people to sign up. Contact the District Office 916.374.1501. Make checks payable to the CA/NV Conference of the UMC. See you in the park.

DELTA DISTRICT CALENDAR

- May 28 Furlough Friday, Conf. Ctr closed
- May 31 Memorial Day, Conf. Ctr. Closed
- June 18 District Dinner/Picnic Capitol Park
- June 16-19 Annual Conference, Conf. Ctr. will be open during Conference
- June 25 Furlough Friday, Conf. Ctr. Closed

Sexual Harassment Hotline 916-374-1569

Lay Speaking Classes:

Ministry of Caring led by Pastor Holly Hillman on September 25, 2010 from 9:00AM to 4:00PM (fee \$25 includes lunch)

To register: Call the Delta District Office at (916) 374.1501 or email deltadist@calnevumc.org

UM Women www.cnumw.org/deltacnumw

Citrus Heights turns Fifty (the big '50')

As part of their "Year of Jubilee" celebration between May 23 and East Sunday, 2011, CH UMC will have the privilege of hearing John Wesley preach, via Don Fado, at the 10:00AM service on June 27th. Everyone is welcome. CH UMC is located at 7833 Highland Avenue in Citrus Heights or call 916.725.6363.

Note: The concert planned for May 23 has been postponed due to organist wrist injury.

Need a copier ? Fair Oaks UMC has upgraded and is offering to sell their older copier for \$300 or make them an offer. It is an Oce copier.


If interested contact Bria Stevens, AA, at Fair Oaks UMC 916.961.6631 or email her at founc@sbcglobal.net.

Opportunities for a short-term Mission Trip

Participate in a United Methodist Volunteer in Mission trip. Below is a list of trips planned for 2009. These trips are sponsored by local churches but open to volunteers from any church.


- Jamaica**, (June) International Construction Team
- Nicaragua, Nueva Guinea** (July) Epworth UMC in Berkeley; International Educational/Connectional Team
- Utah, Salt Lake City—UMCOR West Supply Depot** (July 25-30) U.S. Construction & Multi-Generational Connectional Team
- Guatemala** (July 30 - Aug. 8) Concord UMC; International Medical Team
- Utah, Salt Lake City—UMCOR West Supply Depot** (Aug 2-6) Kings Beach UMC -Construction & Multi-Generational Connectional Team
- Louisiana, New Orleans** (Fall) Retired Clergy; Hurricane Recovery - Construction Team
- Jamaica** (2011) Santa Rosa First UMC; International Construction - Young Adult Team
- Nicaragua, Matagalpa** (2011) Los Altos UMC; International Educational/Connectional Team

Contact UVMIM office at 916-374-1582 or email us at: umvim@calnevumc.org or our website: www.cnumcvim.org




Peace with Justice Sunday is May 30th

Established by the 1988 General Conference to support programs that advocate peace and justice at home and around the world. Half of the offerings collected by your annual conference is retained to fund local peace with justice programs. In addition, half of the offering is remitted to the General Board of Church and Society to help fund U.S. and global work in social action, public-policy education and advocacy.



Cindy's Chat: the office is quiet and today the sun shines, there is work to be done, phones, filing, typing, creating, researching, organizing. Getting the office prepared for administrative changes that go along with UM structural changes is top on my list. I will venture into the unknown. Having the hub of the district offices here at Conference Center will provide more information, resources and services to all our churches in the Conference. From Elko, Nevada to Tehachapi, California and Smith Valley to Carmel, please call so that we can get to know you and your ministry needs. Let us show you how the District Hub can work for you. I think you'll be pleased, not disappointed. The focus will be on all the churches in the CA-NV Conference, and that includes you. Call, email, fax or stop by the District Office, Monday through Friday 8:00AM until 4:00PM. Take time to find out what it's all about. Well, my day is done, here comes a cloud, more rain, come back sun, time to go home, it was a good day.



You are welcome to Attend the May SUMU meeting on Thursday, May 20, from 10:00AM until noon at Davis UMC, 1620 Anderson Road in Davis.

Sacramento United Methodist Union

The National Federation of Asian American United Methodists, the recognized caucus for Asian Americans in The United Methodist Church, will hold a convocation on **July 29-31, at Wesley UMC, 566 North Fifth St. in San Jose, CA 95112**

Ten ethnic groups are represented in the Federation: Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Formosan, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, South Asian & Vietnamese.

The convocation theme is:

"One: Step Forward"

Cost: \$125/person (includes up to 3 nights hotel and 2 lunches, 3 dinners); Or \$75/person for commuters (no hotel).

To register contact: Laddie Perez-Galang, 1755 Sunnyvale Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94597 or email her at: aum@pacbell.net

2010 Summer Camps (Save these dates)

Monte Toyon Camps: July 11-16
 Toyon Kids Camp - Camp Quest - Toyon LIT

Lodestar Camps: July 18-24
 Super Kid Camp - Super Camp - Lodestar LIT

Lodestar Sr. High Leadership: July 31-Aug 6

Other Camps:
 Adult & Family Camp - June 20-27

www.cnumc.org/camping

Scholarships are available through your church extension societies (Sacramento United Methodist Union, Central Extension Society) and the District Counsel on Ministries. Contact your district office.

Equipping for Ministry

Training will be at St. Andrews UMC in Sacramento June 9-10th. Space is limited so register early. Contacts are Rev. Mark Buenafe @ 209.835.4927 or email him at mnbgoodfaith@juno.com and Rev. Elizabeth Brick @ 916.332.0915 or email her at revelizabethb@gmail.com

Side-by-Side Ministries: Drop off candles, writing journals, large print bibles, cross necklaces or rosaries for Side-by-Side Ministry to the homeless at the Delta District Office of the CA-NV Conference Center located at 1276 Halyard Drive in West Sacramento .

Almost Free Pulpit Supply and Programs*

Are you one of the pastors planning a vacation, study leave or spiritual retreat this Summer or Fall? Is there a conference or meeting scheduled for a weekend that you hope to attend? Do you need someone to preach?

Would you like a program on the social, scientific, and economic problems caused by alcohol, other drugs or gambling? Would you like to have a Bible study on the issue of alcohol? Would you like to know what is happening in the state legislature regarding these issues?

Our Executive Director, the Rev. James Butler, is currently arranging his speaking schedule for Summer and Fall 2010. If you are interested in "Almost Free" pulpit supply or other program, please contact Rev. Butler at 916.441.1844 or his cell 916.420.8106 or email calcap@comcast.net.

*All we ask is that you allow for: distribution of a CalCAP brochure, an invitation to become part of our Network and receive a retiring offering at the end of the service.

Polynesian & Friends Festival at Centennial UMC, 5401 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento. Saturday, May 22 from 11:00-4:00.


← Pacific Music & Dance, Food and Activities for Children. Grand Prize Raffle \$500 Cash. ← Polynesian Culture for the Whole Family. ←

ADMISSION IS FREE (Food is available for sale)

Prayer

Drop thy still dews of quietness;
 Till all our strivings cease;
 Take from our souls the strain and stress;
 And let our ordered lives confess
 The beauty of thy peace. **Amen**

(From the Book of Common Prayer)



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Send Ideas, contributions, and announcements to the Delta District Office at the above address. Deadline is the 5th of each month for distribution on the 10th.