



United Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Sunday Schedule

Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship 10:30 AM

Elder-on-Call October 2010
Hugh Moffett

Pastor

Rev. Natalie Chamberlain
Music Minister, Mona White
Youth Minister, Yolanda
Marquez-Lúcar

Ministry Council

Gary Pigg, Chair
Mary-Ann Edens, Vice-Chair
Mona White, Secretary
Christian Ed
Marilyn Prowell, Missions
Mike Edens, Bldgs & Grounds
Gloria Hallier, Evangelism
Congregat'l Life
Beth Jackson, Worship
Jane Sumpter, Fin. Resources
Sharon Hughes, Elders

Elders

Sharon Hughes, Chair
Mike Edens
Natalie Hodgson
Eddie Lou Kester
Everett Johnston
Hugh Moffett
Gary Pigg

Elders Emeritus

Pat Bartholomew
Cleo Hastings
Randy Jordahl

Dear Church Family,



Where has September gone? Time flies and sometimes I get to a place where I need to stop and just see what the previous days have held. With everything moving so quickly, has my time been spent wisely? Am I wasting a precious gift from God?

I can't say that every moment of September was wisely spent. I know I should have a little more Sabbath time. Time well spent does not mean busy time. It is easy to be so busy that we lose sight of ourselves, our God, and our reason for being busy. For me most of September was blessed time. We received seven new members, one by baptism. We have had four worship services and much time with one another. We have been faithful in many ministries. We continue to go forward as the church for this neighborhood.

Having looked back, we can look forward to the next couple of months as we prepare for Advent and a new church year. October is a busy month for us. The Nominating Committee has been formed and we are prayerfully seeking God's wisdom as we seek the leadership team for the coming year. If you are asked to serve, please, pray carefully before answering. The church needs leaders who possess the gifts and graces necessary for each leadership role. God supplies our needs but leaves it up to individuals to be faithful. Pray. If the answer is yes or no, it is faithful if it is in keeping with God's will.

We have lots of activities, as well. October starts with World Communion Sunday. This celebrates the universal nature of Christ's church.

- October 10 is Commitment Sunday. We will be celebrating the abundance of God's provision and grace.
- October 24 is Heritage Sunday. We will have a sermon in a different fashion as we learn some of our church's history.
- October 24 is also CROP Walk Sunday. This year we will be walking to help feed the hungry but we are also walking to remember Sally Salt and her commitment to CROP and her faithfulness to Christ.
- October 31 is All Saints Eve—better known in the world as Halloween—and we will again be inviting our neighborhood into our place as we host Trunk or Treat.

That gets us to November and Annual Meeting. November 7 is the meeting and potluck. More details to follow.

We are a busy church. It is my hope that you will take time to be faithful and not just busy.

- Prayerfully consider what you do and why. Say no when you need to so that what you do is done faithfully.
- Take time for yourself and the ones you love. Don't be too busy to be fully present with those whom you love.
- Take time to be refreshed in the presence of God, in prayer, in Bible reading and in worship.

May the time of October be the time our lives.

Blessings!

Pastor Natalie



October

- 1 **Natalie Hodgson***
- 2 **Beth Jackson***
- 2 **Trinh Bui Nguyen**
- 2 **Betty Hoffman***
- 2 **Lori Ingram***
- 2 **Christian & Kirsten* Morris (A)**
- 3 **Denis Michaud***
- 3 **Jim & Carol* Alavezos (A)**
- 4 **Wilfred (Wil) Bergeron**
- 9 **Chris Anderson***
- 13 **Chinasa Samuel***
- 15 **Larry & Victoria* DeBenedetti (A)**
- 16 **Carroll Cotten***
- 17 **Glenn Niswander**
- 18 **Alan Vogel***
- 21 **Gloria Hallier***
- 22 **Sharron Cotton***
- 23 **Al Lung***
- 23 **Tina McCallister-Boothe***
- 23 **Eleanor Whiteley**
- 26 **Tracy Kamimoto***
- 29 **Irma Moreno***
- 31 **Bearrrr & Lilly Murray (A)**



CWF/Women's Ministries

The CWF meeting will be on October 12 at 1:30 pm at the home of Pat Bartholomew.

Yolanda's Installation November 13, 2010 at 4 pm Regional Director of Hispanic Ministries UCC Youth Minister

We will be having a Sandwich-Salad Potluck following the service.

Our church is in charge of supplying the salads (sandwiches and dessert are being supplied by other groups). We are also going to need help setting up and decorating the room the night before – Friday night at 5:30 pm.

As always we will need folks to stay to clean up and reset the room for Sunday Services. Any questions, just contact Tina at 227-7852 (no phone calls after 8 pm please).

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be on October 2nd at 8:00 am. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend. Hope to see you there!

Gary Pigg, Men's Fellowship



Prayer Requests

- Myrna Vogel:** Health issues.
- Hazel Calderwood:** Pray for good health.
- John Newell:** God's grace for hard places.
- Dorothy Sumpter:** Pray for full recovery.
- Melba Jordahl:** God's grace for her and Randy.
- Mona White & Isaiah:** Praise God for good provision.
- Bob Lewis Jr.:** Regain strength

If you are interested, contact church office for complete prayer list.

Honored Members

Miguel T. Lucar was born on May 21, 1961, in San Jacinto, Peru. His father was in agriculture and was the mayor of the town. His mother was a homemaker. He has two sisters and two brothers.

He finished his schooling in Peru and played professional soccer until he came to the United States when he was 21 years old. He went into the painting business with his brother and became an expert painter. He has been a painting contractor for the past 23 years in Southern California. He has one son, Miguel, Jr., and one daughter, Rosario. He has a grandson, Alex, 20 months and a granddaughter, Leanne Marie, seven months old. He is the husband of the Rev. Yolanda Márquez -Lucar, our Youth Minister.

He and Yolanda met when he gave a bid and contracted to paint her church after it was damaged in the Northridge earthquake in 1994. They married in 1995.

He likes to travel and has visited Brazil, Argentina, El Salvador, Mexico, Puerto Rico and many of the United States. He has a passion for music and likes to dance. He enjoys watching sports on TV, especially soccer. He commutes twice a month from Southern California.

Miguel was raised in the Catholic faith and became a Protestant after he and Yolanda married. He has a joyful spirit and likes to say that he has a "dual membership" by keeping the best parts of both faiths. His main language is Spanish. He joined our church in September along with his mother, Mrs. America Lucar. Please welcome our latest members.

Mrs. America (Mequi) Sarmiento Lucar was born on October 12, 1933, in Peru. Her name reflects Columbus discovering America. Her father was the governor of the district and her mother was a homemaker. She has four sisters and three brothers. Her grandmother and grandfather were immigrants from China and the family still maintains many of the Asian traditions.

She came to the United States in 1998 to visit Yolanda and Miguel and ended up staying for six months and then returning to Peru for six months, a practice she maintains to this day. She prefers the warmer climate so when it turns cool here, she is off again to Peru.

She has five children. She likes to travel and has visited many countries including Puerto Rico with Yolanda and Miguel.

She really enjoys cooking and has done catering. Her only language is Spanish. She was raised in the Catholic faith and became a Protestant after moving to the United States. She joined our church with her son Miguel in September. Please welcome Mrs. Lucar to our congregation.

Submitted by Dorothy Shuck



Missions

CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday,
October 24, 2010

Launch pad:
Temple Beth Israel
6622 N. Maroa Ave.
Fresno



www.crophungerwalks.org/fresno-clovis

Ending hunger one step at a time

Our CROP Hunger Walk serves two purposes: (1) to raise awareness about people around the world who must walk to find food, water, firewood, freedom and other necessities of life; and (2) to raise funds to help stop hunger wherever it exists.

Sally Salt was our team leader for the walk here at United Christian, in spirit if not in name for many years. Last year she walked after she was diagnosed with cancer. For years she was a leading fundraiser for the whole Fresno-Clovis CROP Walk. Her sponsors were family, colleagues from Children's Hospital of Central California where she worked for over two decades, neighbors, friends, and anyone else who couldn't resist her enthusiasm. So this year we're walking not only because of the many in the world who have to walk to get water and food but also because we remember Sally and her passion for helping others. Her life here ended May 3 but her legacy lives on.

25% of the money from this walk will go to the Community Food Bank, which serves nearly 90,000 people in Fresno, Madera, and Kings Counties each week through a network of member partners. For each dollar the Community Food Bank receives, it can distribute \$8.00 worth of food.

75% of the funds aid in the work of Church World Service globally to:

- Support sustainable self-help development projects - digging wells, providing tools and seeds, rebuilding homes, teaching trade skills through micro-enterprise loans;

- Meet emergency needs, such as for survivors of the Central Valley freeze, floods, fires, and other natural and man-made disasters;
- Aid refugees - providing hope for those from the Balkans, Afghanistan, Iran, Burma, Somalia, Sudan, Ukraine, Russia, Laos and Vietnam and other countries - resettling them in the U.S. through our regional affiliate offices;
- Address the root causes of poverty and powerlessness.

How can you participate?

- **WALK WITH US!** You need a sponsor envelope from our recruiter, Jamal Hicks. Secure as many sponsors as possible, listing each person and pledge on your form or invite sponsors [online](http://www.crophungerwalks.org/fresno-clovis). Go to <http://www.churchworldservice.org/goto/UnitedChristianC> Checks should be made payable to : CWS/CROP, and sponsor forms (and money collected) should be turned in to the recruiter on WALK Day.
- **Be a Spirit Walker!** Raise funds even though you are unable to walk.
- **RECRUIT MORE WALKERS!** Invite and encourage your friends, neighbors, coworkers to walk with you. Many people walk to help and will appreciate the chance to participate.
- **SPONSOR A WALKER!** If you are unable to walk, sponsor other people who are walking or get your employer to match your gift! Please be as generous as possible for this annual event for the hungry. This can be done online.
- Have your **employer/corporation sponsor** the event! We accept matching gifts, in-kind donations, and sponsor donations to make this event possible.
- **Pray** for the CROP Hunger Walk and the poor and hungry

Missions

Pakistan Floods Are Beyond Devastating

Thursday, August 19, 2010 at 01:21PM

While flooding continues to wreak havoc in Pakistan, the world has been slow to understand how vast the needs emerging from this crisis are, much less respond. While the international community has so far committed close to US\$229.5 million in support and another US\$142 million in additional pledges, those pledge amounts alone are insufficient to cover even the initial three-month relief needs outlined by the United Nations, says Donna Derr, Director of Humanitarian Assistance for Church World Service.

"Thankfully the flood's death toll has remained relatively low, but disasters can't be measured by just the number of dead," says Derr.

"Effective humanitarian response must be measured against the number of people affected, just struggling to survive."

The initial UN plan calls for US\$460 million. The Pakistan Humanitarian Forum, which Week of Compassion supports through our partnership with CWS, calls on government and private sources to dramatically increase funding in order to save lives.

Pakistan's already weak social services may crumble without adequate and immediate help now. Millions of Pakistanis risk sinking deeper into chronic poverty for the next generation, compromising human rights and basic needs. Week of Compassion partners are on the ground in Pakistan, providing food, shelter, and health care to affected areas. There is still much to be done. The severity of the flooding in Pakistan cannot be underscored enough:

This is as big a humanitarian crisis as the 2004 Tsunami—if not bigger. If you would like to help, please continue to keep the people of Pakistan in your prayers and [consider contributing to the response](#).

Flash Flooding in Iowa and Tennessee

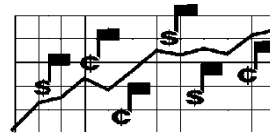
Closer to home, communities across Iowa and Tennessee have been affected by flash flooding. Through Week of Compassion, you

have helped us to respond to the needs of families in Disciples congregations in Des Moines, Ames, and Colfax, Iowa. We are continuing to monitor the situation in Middle Tennessee, and will respond as we hear of needs.

We are grateful, as always, for your willingness to help out people whose names you will likely never know. Your partnership with our churches in the Midwest and villages in remote areas of Pakistan proves what it means to reach out with Courageous Compassion.

Thanks be to God!

If you'd like to help, make your check out to UCC with a note in the memo line "WOC".



Financial NOTES

August 2010

General Funds	\$246,170
Designated Other	4,786
Memorial & Honor Funds	7,427
Designated Outreach Funds	<u>2,111</u>
Total Checking & Savings	\$260,494

Monthly Offerings (includes 12% for Missions)

Total August 2010	\$ 7,903
Total August 2009	<u>6,819</u>
Above Prior Year	\$ 1,084

Year-to-Date Offerings (includes 12% for Missions)

To August 31 2010	\$ 52,884
To August 31 2009	<u>51,781</u>
Above Prior Year	\$ 1,103

Income & Expense Jan .1-Aug. 31, 2010

Receipts	\$ 65,199
Expenses	<u>94,586</u>
8/31/2010	(\$ 29,387)



World Communion Sunday, October 3, 2010

The first Sunday of October, is a celebration of the unity of the worldwide church through Christ. Christians in congregations around the world participate in the Lord's Supper and the time in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) we receive/give our offering to support Reconciliation Ministry. As we gather around the Lord's table, we are reminded of our oneness in Christ and celebrate with our fellow believers the faith and work of the Church worldwide.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) celebrates the Gospel teaching that God's children come from all places and that the power of love at God's table is able to bring together all races, languages, cultures and traditions. (Revelation 5: 9-10). We recognize that there have been forces within our Church and society that have misshapen our self-understanding and promoted division.

Acknowledging God's call to be faithful to the witness of unity and justice, we confess that we are sinful and that racism is a result of our sinfulness. Yet, God heals us and calls us to be reconciled one to another and all to God.

It is the vision of Reconciliation Ministry to build just communities by breaking down the walls within our church which separate us. We claim a new reality in which we live into God's realm by celebrating our unity, affirming the cultural traditions of each member of the body of Christ and working together for justice to ensure unconditional welcome and access to God's abundant resources. We envision a Church in which all communities are accountable to one another and God.

Reconciliation Ministry advances the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)'s journey toward wholeness by empowering each expression of the Church to implement structural change to address historic fractures caused by racism and the systems that perpetuate it. It is the goal of our shared work to foster life-giving community within our church and in relationship with the whole family of God. We accomplish this mission through intentional dialogue, inclusive worship and experiential education. [From

<http://www.reconciliationministry.org/Purpose/abid/611/Default.aspx>, a website that contains many more resources for understanding the Reconciliation ministries].

Where do our Reconciliation Ministry dollars go?

Half of the funds are retained in Regions for congregational and area programs that build community across the racial divide of difference. With the half of the offering that is retained at General Church level, Regions and General Ministries received grants to fund the work of Reconciliation.

In addition to partnering through funding, the vision of Reconciliation is to build just communities by breaking down the walls within our church which separate us. Where do Reconciliation Ministry funds go? All of your dollars work together to move us toward each of the four mission priorities of: 1000 new churches, 1000 transformed churches, leader development and becoming a pro-reconciling anti-racist church. Join the journey toward wholeness! Support our mission priority to become a pro-reconciling/anti-racist church by giving generously on World Communion Sunday, October 3rd. Lives are being changed! The gospel is being proclaimed!

By: April Johnson, Minister of Reconciliation - ajohnson@ogmp.disciples.org

Our regional Reconciliation Committee provides grants to congregations seeking to empower marginalized communities or foster relationships with marginalized communities and gives out an annual MLK scholarship to a college student from the region who exhibits a commitment to living out Dr. King's legacy in their lives and in their communities.

In this way, we hope to help the congregations of this region live out Jesus' first public act of ministry when (Luke 4:17-19): He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."



On Halloween night, Sunday, October 31st, from 6pm.-8pm., United Christian Church is going to host “Trunk or Treat.” What is “Trunk or Treat?” It’s a safe alternative to Trick or Treat. The children in our community will be invited to UCC to participate in fall festival activities and to trick or treat decorated trunks of cars and vehicles parked in our parking lot. This is a fun activity so that children are able to go to a safe place on Halloween.

We do need your help.

- Are you willing to decorate the trunk of your car and pass out treats from it?
- We also need volunteers to help with games.
- We will be having bean bag toss, ring the 2 liter bottle, cake walk and other games for prizes.

I plan to dress in my clown costume and have the children “pick my pockets” for funny treats.

Donations of cakes/pastries, 2 liter bottles of soda, and candy to pass out are needed.

There will be a sign up sheet on the turn-around in the sanctuary. Last year was so successful with around 200 children. We are planning for more children this year. If you are willing to volunteer, make donations and/or provide your car for “Trunk or Treat” or if you need more information, please call or contact Mona White (559)776-2839



Mona and Marshall White

Young Adults Study

There will be a planning meeting for a new young adult Bible study.

- When: 12:45pm Sunday October 10
- Where: Church Parlor
- What: Planning for the new study on the book of Luke
- Who: finished High School to whatever
- Other: Pizza and salad provided!

Child care for preschool children provided, too. Beckysue and Pastor Natalie will be organizing and leading.

More info: call or text Beckysue at 270-6942

October: Ministry Appreciation Month

October is the month we set aside to show our appreciation and gratitude for our Ministry Staff.

Please call or text Beth at 930-8709 for more information.

Let us show the ministerial staff here at UCC just how much the work they do blesses us all.



Sally Salt

Disciples Heritage

Who We Are Now...

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

*Sharon E. Watkins
General Minister and President
21st Century Vision Team (2007)
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*

Who We Were Then.....

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) proclaims Jesus as Lord, draws its inspiration from Scripture and the Holy Spirit, witnesses and serves among the whole human family, acknowledges that Christian unity and Christian mission are inseparable and claims as its particular mission the quest for the reunion of the Body of Christ, celebrating weekly around the Lord's Table the life, death, resurrection and continuing presence of its Lord.

*Kenneth Teegarden
General Minister and President (1973-85)
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*

Heritage Sunday
is October 24, 2010

Come join us for worship and hear a dialogue between two of our leaders, Alexander Campbell and Barton W. Stone.

Inserts about historical leaders of our church will be in the bulletins.

Mission Statement Updated

The current mission statement for United Christian Church was written a number of years ago. It is a good statement of New Testament beliefs but it is not a mission statement in keeping with our mission and ministry in our community. The current mission statement is on the outside of this newsletter.

The Ministry Council has voted to bring to the Annual Meeting a new mission statement. The statement is: ***Answering God's call to be the church for our neighborhood.*** This is simple, easy to remember and actually describes what our mission is. The members of the congregation will have the opportunity to vote on whether or not to accept this statement at the Annual meeting on November 7, 2010.



Being a
Disciple

Stuff You Need to Know

Pastor Natalie will be offering a **one** session class called...

"Stuff You Need to Know About Disciples"



It will be offered 3 times:

October 17
November 14
December 12

Class will meet in the sanctuary during Sunday school time 9:15am to 10:00am.

OCTOBER 2010

All meetings are at the church unless otherwise stated.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday*	Saturday
 <p>Trunk or Treat</p> <p><i>Join us on October 31st for the 2nd annual Trunk or Treat! Don't miss it! 6 to 8 pm</i></p>				 the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10 am O.A.	1*  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i>	2  8:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:00 am O.A. 10:30 am O.A. 11-3pm BBQ Picnic Carnival - Selma. 7 pm A.A.
3 †9:15 am Sunday School †10:30 am Worship Service <u>WORLD COMMUNION /RECOMCILIATION</u>	4 7:15 Bible Study at the Hodgson's	5 10 am O.A.	6  7 pm Choir	7  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10 am O.A.	8*  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i> Ministry Council Reports Due	9 9 am Youth Window Washing 10:30 am O.A. 7 pm A.A. 9 pm Youth Lock-In
10 †9:15 am Sunday School †10:30 am Worship Service <u>COMMITMENT SUNDAY</u>	11 7:15 Bible Study at the Hodgson's.	12 10 am O.A. 1:30 pm CWF @ Pat B's. 6:30 pm Council Meeting	13  7 pm Choir ANNUAL REPORTS DUE	14  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10 am O.A.	15*  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i>	16 10:30 am O.A. 7 pm A.A.
17 †9:15 am Sunday School †10:30 am Worship Service	18 <u>Newsletter Articles Due</u> 7:15 Bible Study at the Hodgson's.	19 10 am O.A. 6:30 pm Elders Meeting	20  7 pm Choir	21  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10 am O.A.	22*  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i>	23 10:30 am O.A. 7 pm A.A.
24 †9:15 am Sunday School †10:30 am Worship Service <u>HERITAGE SUNDAY CROP WALK</u>	25 7:15 Bible Study at the Hodgson's.	26 10 am O.A. 6:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting	27  7 pm Choir	28  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10 am O.A.	29*  the Pastor <i>Pastor's day off</i>	30 10:30 am O.A. 7 pm A.A.
31 †9:15 am Sunday School †10:30 am Worship Service <u>TRUNK OR TREAT!</u>		 <p>Every Friday evening custodial service is being done in the Church and the Church office.</p>				