



Dear Church Family and Friends,

August was a month that did not go quite as I had planned. I came home from Oregon a few days early. In fact, I was able to be in worship with the congregation on July 31. That was a treat and I enjoyed hearing Anthony Eggleston's perspective on the Scripture.

I had planned to go to Montana this fall to see my mother. It became apparent that I needed to go sooner and so I left on August 4. When I arrived, it was obvious that I had not come too soon. My mother was still aware and responsive and was for a couple of more days. After that, we simply worked to keep her comfortable. She slipped from this life to the next very quietly on the morning of August 15. Her funeral was Thursday August 18.

There are no words to express my gratitude for all you have done to support me through this difficult time. Your prayers sustained me. Your kind words and cards encouraged me. The very able leadership of the lay leaders and staff was apparent and gave me great peace of mind. Beth's extra work was such a comfort; I knew I didn't have to be concerned about details. The beautiful flowers the congregation sent were an encouragement to all my family and a very tangible sign of your care for me. I am blessed beyond measure. Thank you for all you have done.

The following is a short piece from the funeral sermon.
Mom was also a woman of strong faith. There is a saying that goes like this:

Cancer is so limited!
It CANNOT
Cripple love
Shatter hope
Corrode faith
Destroy peace
Kill friendship
Suppress memories
Silence courage
Invade the soul.
It cannot steal eternal life.
It cannot conquer the spirit.

In mom's case this was true. She had lived a life filled with hardship and pain but also filled with love, joy and miracles. She knew God to be a God of goodness and faithfulness and so she persevered through her many trials graciously, to the end.

You may or may not have known my mother but I am grateful for the love you showed to her by caring for me.

God bless you.



CATHERINE EMELIA
OTTO CHAMBERLAIN

Pastor Natalie



SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Gilbert Vélez*
- 2 Mary-Ann Edens*
- 5 Sean* & Tamara* Hannon (A)
- 6 Jane Sumpter*
- 7 Carl & Esther Robinson (A)
- 7 Mona* & Marshall* White (A)
- 7 Nathan Samuel
- 9 Konnor Jackson
- 12 Patti Horg
- 13 Jim & Patti Horg (A)
- 14 Alexander Born
- 14 Ethan Bare*
- 16 Annie Bui
- 22 Joan Collins*
- 25 Esther Robinson
- 25 Denny Bui
- 25 Marleen Bridges*
- 27 Esther Morris*
- 28 Jesus Perez



CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice will resume on September 7 at 7:15 pm.



YOUTH CAMP 2012

Mark your calendars. Youth camp for 2012 is already on the calendar. Camp will run from Sunday June 24 through 11:00 am Friday June 29.

It isn't too early to plan to attend!

Save the Dates!

ACTS Class – Ad Ministry
Starts Sunday,
Sept. 11 at 3 pm

Women's Fall Retreat
Sept 16-18

Miracle Day
October 8

CROP Walk
October 23

Trunk or Treat
UCC Parking Lot
October 31

First Christian Church
Eugene, OR
Centennial Building Celebration
October 29-30

Interfaith Scholar Weekend
Feb 10-12, 2012
Speaker: Rita Nakashima Brock



CWF/WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

The first fall CWF group meeting will be Tuesday, September 13, at 1:30 p.m. at the church. All women are welcome to attend.

Several women are attending the Regional Women's Retreat at Mission Springs, September 16-18. All moneys are due September 9.

MISSIONS

Roeding: School Has Started

United Christian Church seeks to be Christ to our neighborhood. One of the ways we do this is in our ministry to Roeding Elementary School, our neighborhood school. There are several ways you can help.



Be a pen pal. This requires that you write regularly to a child in Ms. Dominguez' third grade class. Pen pals will be assigned in mid-September. At the end of the school year, in June, pen pals meet the child to whom they have been writing. Background checks are required.



Collect "Boxtops for Education." These are found on many of the grocery items we all buy regularly.



Save your receipts from Fresh and Easy. The school gets a rebate of \$1 for every \$20 in receipts we collect. There is an envelope by the mail boxes in the church hallway to collect Boxtops and receipts.



Use your SaveMart Shares Card. This card is swiped every time you shop at SaveMart or Food Maxx. The school then receives a percentage of what you spend back to be used for sixth grade programs. If you don't have a card, see Pastor Natalie.

Donate school supplies. New, unopened supplies such as: pencils, 24 pack Crayola crayons, dry erase markers, spiral notebooks, composition books, erasers and Kleenex can be left at the office for Pastor Natalie to take to the school.



Volunteer! If you like working with children and have time and energy to volunteer in the classroom, let Pastor Natalie know. She will help get you into a classroom where your help is needed and appreciated.

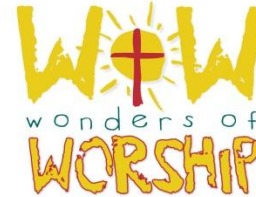
Pray! We can all pray for the students, teachers, staff and volunteers at Roeding. The classrooms are crowded this year. Pray for safety, health and good learning.



Week of Compassion

Week of Compassion lasts all year long. With the continuing disasters in this country and around the world, your financial gifts provide needed emergency assistance to our brothers and sisters around the world. Some of the recent needs include:

- ✝ Hurricane Irene damages Puerto Rico and the US
- ✝ Droughts in Somalia and Kenya
- ✝ Sandstorms in China
- ✝ Continuing needs in Joplin, MO and Haiti



WOW

First WOW Interest Group to Start

FINANCIAL NOTES

JULY 2011

General Funds	\$203,788
Designated Other	5,467
Memorial & Honor Funds	7,517
Designated Outreach Funds	<u>1,910</u>
Total Checking & Savings	\$218,682

Monthly Offerings *(includes 12% for Missions)*

Total July 2011	\$ 6,202
Total July 2010	<u>5,860</u>
Above Prior Year	\$ 342

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

To July 31, 2011	\$ 48,392
To July 31, 2010	<u>44,980</u>
Above Prior Year	\$ 3,412

Income & Expense Jan .1-July 31, 2011

Receipts	56,700
Expenses	<u>105,704</u>
7/31/2011	(\$ 49,004)

The WOW Wednesday format was adopted to make Bible study more accessible to the congregation. It was also chosen so that there would be opportunities for small interest groups to form and meet at the church. The first such group is about to start.

Wednesday September 7th will be the first meeting of a scrapbooking group. Then in September and the months following, we will meet on the first Wednesday of each month. We will meet from 7-8pm in the classroom.

Everyone who is interested in learning to scrapbook, to help with the church scrapbook, or work on scrapbooking projects for gift giving is welcome to this group. We will accept participants until the table is full.

I will be leading the group. My sister, Cathy, has donated supplies and some project kits. If you have never done scrapbooking or if you are just looking for company as you scrapbook, come. This should be fun.

Pastor Natalie



End of Summer BBQ
Saturday, September 3
11 am to 2 pm
At the home of Tasha Wynn
 Food and drink provided.
 Contact Tasha Wynn or the church office for directions

COMMUNITY EVENTS

9/11 10th Anniversary

The Islamic Cultural Center is organizing and hosting the 10th anniversary commemoration of 9/11 on:

Saturday, September 10 at 6:00 PM
2111 E. Nees, Fresno.

The Interfaith Alliance of Central California is co-sponsoring this event.

This will be a solemn event honoring those who lost their lives on 9/11. Several local officials, as well as a local family who lost a loved one that day, will be part of the service. The service will conclude with children from several different faith communities releasing doves.

"The Courage to Remember" Holocaust Exhibit at CSUF September 22 - September 27

Student Union Building
(Pavilion Conference Room)

"The Courage to Remember" is an historical account of the Nazis' murderous campaign in which 6 million Jews and others were killed between 1933 and 1945

Ragtime

The Musical
Sept 9-25

Cal ARTS Severance Theatre
1401 N. Wishon
Cost \$10.00

Times vary; see the website
www.stageworksfresno.com for more information.



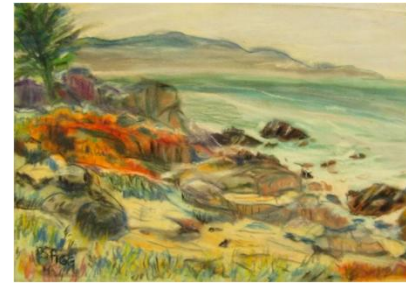
Mission • Work • Renewal

COUNT DOWN TO MIRACLE DAY!!!

Only 44 days (6 more weekends) to go until the big day. As you can tell by the outside of the church and the parlor, the men are already hard at work on our Miracle Day projects.

We have several fund-raising efforts in place right now:

- ✚ the Silent Auction – come bid on some of the items at the back of the church.
- ✚ Raffle for Pam's painting, a beautiful pastel, "Monterey Seascape". Tickets are only \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00.



- ✚ Plus we still have some T-shirts to sell.

We will begin distributing the volunteer forms this Sunday, please see either Earlene or Natalie Hodgson. It is very important that we know who will be there that day and what their "special skills" are, so we can plan ahead. There will be ways for everyone to help, from sitting at the registration table, serving food for the workers, painting and helping with the clean-up.

Most important of all - we need your prayers, and I know how great this congregation is at that. Thank you for your support!

YOUTH PAGE



A child's smile never lies...



Nothing like a
GREAT Pool
Party
to say bye to
vacations
and start



thinking about school again!

Then Fun got
even better!



The water
balloons
appeared!



The adults invaded the pool...

*The food was
delicious...*



*And some of us had to admit...
Time flies when we are having fun; and,*





our babies grow, way too fast!

September 2011

* Every Friday morning custodial service is being done in the Church and the Church office.

☺ Deadline for Bulletin material is noon, each Wednesday.

All meetings are at the church unless otherwise stated.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday*	Saturday
				1 10:00 am O.A.	2* <i>Pastor's day off</i> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service	3 7-12 noon Miracle Day Work Day 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 am O.A. 10:30 am O.A. 11-2 PM BBQ at Tasha Wynn's 7:00 pm A.A.
4 †10:30 am Worship Service	 labor Day CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED NO Bible Study at the Hodgsons'	6 10:00 am O.A. 5:30 Miracle Day Meeting 6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study	7☺ <i>Staff Meeting 11am office closed</i> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div> 7:15 pm Choir	8 10:00 am O.A.	9* <i>Pastor's day off</i> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service	10 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10:30 am O.A. 7:00 pm A.A.
11 †10:30 am Worship Service <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">ACTS CLASS 3 PM</div>	12 7:15 pm Bible Study at the Hodgsons'	13 10:00 am O.A. 1:30 pm CWF Meeting 6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study	14☺ <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div> 7:15 pm Choir	15 10:00 am O.A. Newsletter Articles Due	16* <i>Pastor's day off</i> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service Mission Springs 16th – 18th	17 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 7-12 noon Miracle Day Work Day 10:30 am O.A. 7:00 pm A.A.
18 †10:30 am Worship Service	19 7:15 pm Bible Study at the Hodgsons'	20 10:00 am O.A. 6:30 pm Elders Meeting 6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study	21☺ 5 pm PIC/UCC Partnership Meeting <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div> 7:15 pm Choir	22 10:00 am O.A. 2 pm Camp Meeting	23* <i>Pastor's day off</i> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service	24 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10:30 am O.A. 7:00 pm A.A.
25 †10:30 am Worship Service	26 7:15 pm Bible Study at the Hodgsons'	27 10:00 am O.A. 6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study	28☺ Youth Team Mtg. <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div> 7:15 pm Choir	29 10:00 am O.A. 7 pm Home Owners Assoc. Meeting	30* <i>Pastor's day off</i> 6:00 pm World Communion PIC/UCC Joint Service	