



Dear Church Family,

It has been a wonderful and busy season. Easter and events following it were joyous. The block party was fabulous (see the article). The planning for Miracle Day is well under way. The life of this church is overflowing all around us. When you receive this, I will be in Alaska enjoying time with my sister, Cathy, and doing as much bird watching as I can. I also plan to look for sea glass to fill the beautiful vase I was given for Mother's day. The busyness of the beginning of the year has made this time away much anticipated.

I was in Nome during my sabbatical a couple of years ago. God showed me an important lesson using sea glass. One Sunday morning it was bright and sunny when my sisters and I drove to church. It was still sunny when the service was over. We decided to go home and have some lunch and then go to the beach and look for sea glass.

By the time we got to the beach after lunch the weather had turned blustery. The sky was gray, the waves were high and the wind was strong. It was the kind of day most people would expect late in the fall, not during the summer. We were going to start off going into the wind but the beach in that direction was nearly lost to the tide. So we set off with the wind to our backs. We didn't go very far because even with the wind at our backs, it was cold. We turned after only about a quarter of a mile and made our way back to the car. Between the three of us, we found only five or six pieces of glass.

Cathy pulled the car onto the graveled space outside her door. I asked if they found much sea glass in the gravel. She seemed surprised at the question and said she had never looked. I told her I thought the gravel must come from the beach or somewhere near it as the stone were all rounded. I got out of the car, looked down and saw a green stone. I picked up my first piece of sea glass, in the driveway. In the next minute or two, we found a whole handful of glass.

It had never occurred to my sisters to look in the gravel for sea glass. What I saw was not gravel but a piece of the beach transferred to the drive. It is amazing how the way we look at something determines what we see. This reminds me that I need to be open to see with God's eyes so that I will not miss the blessings God has for me and my community.

Time away from the regular routine works to remove the blinders that keep me too narrowly focused. I am looking forward to this time with my sister because I know that I will be refreshed physically and spiritually. I also know that in the incredible beauty of Alaska it is hard not to feel the nearness of God. I look forward to going but I also look forward to returning to Fresno to share all God teaches me.

God's blessings to all of you in my absence.

Pastor Natalie

JUNE
BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES

2	Isela Lazalde*
2	Marshall White*
5	William* & Jasmine* Roesing (A)
8	Carol Alavezos*
10	Marian Daly*
10	Gloria* & Bill Hallier (A)
11	Pat French*
11	Dorothy Shuck*
12	Rosemary Flores
13	Hugh* & Jan* Moffett (A)
14	Natalie Chamberlain* (ordination)
14	Brian Potter*
16	David Morris*
16	Emily Grace Roesing
24	Virginia (Ginny) Bergeron
26	Joy Johnson
26	Melvina Symons* (ordination)
29	Jasmine Roesing*
30	Pat Bartholomew*

Save the Dates!

Youth Camp
June 12-17

Fourth of July Gathering
July 4

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

Miracle Day
October 8

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



CWF/WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

NEW ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE
NUMBER CHANGES:

Any phone number or address changes will no longer be provided in the bulletin or newsletter. You must contact the church office for the information.

Beckysue Duran – new address & phone number.

Calvin Leeds: - new phone number & mailing address.

Rev. Barrett & Eleanor Whiteley: - new phone number & mailing address.

POSTPONED AGAIN. The CWF “end of the year luncheon” (which has been scheduled first for June 4 and then June 18) has been postponed again so as to not conflict with Emily Grace Roesing’s fifth birthday party on the 18th. Watch for further announcements regarding when and where the luncheon will be held.

The CWF group will not meet again until September 13 when it will meet at the church.

Watch for information concerning the Regional Fall Retreat at Mission Springs on September 16-18.

HONORED MEMBERS

Heather Mello was born on October 22, 1981, in Fresno, California. Her father worked in construction and her mother worked at a dry cleaners. Her father passed away last November. She has one brother and six sisters. She graduated from Selma High School. She has worked at Burger King and Wendy's. She has five children. One of her daughters, Alicia, has Cystic Fibrosis.

Heather enjoys scrap-booking, working on the computer and helping in the kitchen. She enjoys volunteer work and helped *all day* at our block party.

She enjoys going to the beach and mountains. As a child she traveled with her grandparents and they visited San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz and Monterey where they camped out. They also went to Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm and Great America.

Her neighbor, Jasmine Roesing, invited her to church and Heather and Jose joined last month. She says she feels like it is home.

Jose Cuellar was born on September 27, 1977, in Mexico. He father was a farmer and his mother was a stay-at-home mom. He has nine sisters and four brothers. He came to the United States when he was 13 years old to live with his sister in Selma, California.

He has worked in field work, construction and landscaping and is an eager worker. He is currently looking for a job and will try his hand at any type of work from handy man to yard work, etc.

When he lived in Mexico, he was able to see several entertainment personalities. Jose would like very much to take his family to Disneyland. He enjoys working around his home, including inside the house, and spending time with his family. When he travels to Mexico to visit his family, the trip takes three days by car from the California border to Penjamo, Guanajuato.

He was raised in the Catholic faith. He came to our church with his wife, Heather, at the invitation of Jasmine. He also says it feel like home to him and likes our friendly congregation. He has volunteered to help around the church and he, too, worked all day at our recent block party. He attends the men's prayer breakfast and work day.

Please give them a warm welcome.



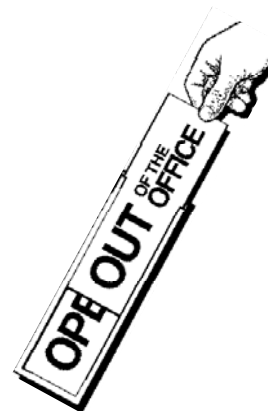
Submitted by Dorothy Shuck



Pastor Natalie's Vacation

Just a reminder,
Pastor Natalie will
be on vacation
from
May 31st through
June 16th.

The church office
will be closed from
June 3-10
because Beth will
be on vacation.



MISSIONS

FIRM Family Festival, July 13-17

There will be music, crafts, games, and snacks.

UCC has volunteered to help out on Thursday, July 7 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM.

Our youth will be helping with crafts and games and we need help with the snacks.

We need lots of cookies to take so please start baking.

Any questions, ask Eddie Lou Kester,



MISSIONS POTLUCK

June 5th right after church.

Plan to be here and hear about our Global Ministries.

Searching for Identity and Citizenship

I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my mother's sons. Psalm 69: 8

The Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT) was started by missionaries in the early 1800s. Now it has more than 900 churches nationwide, and 150,000 members. Global Ministries partners with CCT to minister to the 1.2 million people in Thailand who belong to ethnic minority groups, such as the Karen, Hmong (Meo), Yao (Mein), Akha (Egaw), Lahu (Musoe), and Lisu.

Many hill tribe people, although they were born in Thailand, do not have birth certificates, meaning they have no citizenship, no identification documents, and no legal identity. The lack of citizenship means that these ethnic minorities are considered illegal aliens in their

own land and have little access to basic services like education and health care, employment, and the right to own land.

Searching for Identity and Citizenship for Ethnic Minorities in Thailand is a new project by CCT. Nine volunteers help villagers apply to become Thai citizens. The project expected 100-200 individuals to receive citizenship documents in the first year of the project. As of August 2010, almost 1,000 people had filed for citizenship. Of those, 210 had been granted citizenship and an additional 776 were registered and waiting.

Among the 210, Mayuree and her three younger sisters recently became Thai citizens. Their father and mother had obtained citizenship years ago but, due to the lack of education, Mayuree's parents did not know how to register their children. Mayuree said "I am very happy to receive the citizenship. I am a Thai now. I am happy because I can go to school and obtain public services that other Thai people receive."

Please pray for this new project, and the impact it has on improving the lives of so many.

Global Ministries works with the Church of Christ in Thailand to fund the Citizenship project. <http://globalministries.org/bulletin/en/june-2011.html>



With all the tornado's that are effecting the Mid-West, you can help out by making a check out to UCC with "WOC – Mid-West tornado's" in the memo line.

MINISTRY COUNCIL

GLEANINGS

The Ministry Council met on May 10th and approved the following requests:

- A request to pay the \$50 fee for Mona White to attend a regional training session.
- A request to send the \$5,000 pledge to the Regional Miracle Day Fund from our reserve funds at this time and pay back those funds as we raise the money.
- The revised Youth Permission Slip.
- A request by Patrick's McKendrick (Buildings & Grounds) to enclose the shed area behind the church office because of a littering problem from people in the neighborhood.

The council discussed the Annual Meeting at Asilomar. It was noted that it is being moved to a Hotel in Redwood City next year.

Mary-Ann Edens,
Chair, Ministry Council

FINANCIAL NOTES

April 2011

General Funds	\$226,257
Designated Other	3,451
Memorial & Honor Funds	7,517
Designated Outreach Funds	<u>1,306</u>
Total Checking & Savings	\$238,531

Monthly Offerings *(includes 12% for Missions)*

Total April 2011	\$ 8,093
Total April 2010	<u>5,780</u>
Above Prior Year	\$ 2,313

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

To April 31, 2011	\$ 30,171
To April 31, 2010	<u>26,031</u>
Above Prior Year	\$ 4,140

Income & Expense Jan .1-Apr.30, 2011

Receipts	\$ 34,125
Expenses	<u>60,105</u>
4/30/20	(\$ 25,980)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Summer Band Concerts Under the Stars

June 23rd & 30th; July 7th, 14th,
21st & 28th, 2011

Place: Memorial Park,
Kingsburg, CA

Attractions: City Band, Food, and Arts and
Crafts

Thursday Nights Only Event for 6 weeks.

This concert series is held for a six-week period every Thursday night in Kingsburg's Memorial Park. Each night starts with a Farmer's Market, Food and Crafts from 5-8 p.m., followed by the concert from 8-9:30 pm. Here's an opportunity for you to slip back in time to an old-fashioned outdoor Concert and Farmers' Market.

White Cane Day Festival! Manchester Center – Parking lot Blackstone & Shields

June 4th 11am to 4pm

Come one, come all and learn more about blindness. The kids can enjoy pony rides with a free picture from Barn Yard Buddies, face painting from Ducky the Clown with balloons, 3 different bounce houses, arts & crafts, air brush t-shirts, guide dog puppies, mobility trainers and more! Raffles and food! Proceeds will benefit Valley Center for the Blind and support the local Lions Club's projects.

MIRACLE DAY



Mission • Work • Renewal

MIRACLE DAY 2011

We are off to a good start on our Miracle Day journey for 2011. If you missed the special coffee hour, too bad, you missed a great cake and lots of good information. We didn't save any cake for you but the information is still available.

The United Christian Church Miracle Day Committee

Chair: Mary-Ann Edens

Volunteer Coordinators: Earlene and Natalie Hodgson

Fundraising: Gary Pigg

Work Site Coordinators: Mike Edens, Patrick McKendrick, Gary Pigg

Food Coordinators: Tasha Wynn, Tina McCallister-Boothe

Safety Coordinator: Pam Pigg (nurse)

Worship Team: Everett Johnston, Mona White

Minister: Natalie Chamberlain

Miracle Day will be an opportunity for United Christian Church to take care of a great deal of deferred maintenance. This includes:

- ✝ Painting the interior of the church, including the sanctuary
- ✝ Painting Beth's office
- ✝ Replacing the carpet in Beth's office
- ✝ Recarpet the parlor
- ✝ Remove the paneling from the parlor and prepare walls for painting
- ✝ Make a false wall in the parlor to conceal chairs and tables
- ✝ Repairing gutters on the church building
- ✝ Finishing the painting started Earth Day

- ✝ Replacing the office back porch
- ✝ Updating the chancel (See brochure on the turn around.)



We will work over the next few months in preparation for the October 8th Miracle Day event. The timeline and actions will be: In May, we will begin to sell T-shirts and hold our first fundraiser which is a Silent Auction of the children's artwork. In June, we will begin to form sub-committees for items such as color selection, prep work, etc. We will also have our first Pre-Work day. There will be at least one pre-work day on a Saturday every month between now and October. We will also solicit bids from contractors for work that cannot be done by volunteers. We will hold a second fundraiser with another silent auction – this time with handmade crafts from members and friends of the congregation. In July, we will rent storage pods for tools and furniture as we begin to tear things down and move things around. We will begin choosing our colors and soliciting donations from retailers for supplies. In August and September, we will continue to hold fundraisers – ideas are appreciated! Continue with pre-work days and start purchasing supplies as needed. Plans for serving food will be finalized. On October 7th – the night before we will be making final preparations, taping, moving and covering furniture. October 8th – Pray – Work – Worship!

BLOCK PARTY



6TH ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY!

Tina's reflections....on the success of our Block Party

I've had to write this down – because it may take me a few minutes to get thru it.

At home we don't call this being emotional – it's called Passionate!

We had over 150 guests.

And that's great with over 30 other different events going on in town and it also being Mother's Day weekend.

You served over 200 hot dogs with about 4 gallons of Patrick's wonderful home-made chili! There were over \$80.00 of raffle tickets sold, a full grocery cart of canned goods for the food pantry.

We had 32 vendors and countless volunteers.

So.....

Sitting at home last night reflecting.

Feeling dog tired.

I was flipping thru the photos I had taken . .

Smiling thru my alligator tears

I was visiting my thoughts of the day . . .

knowing . . . if we have been able to touch just one person's life in a positive way, it was worth it.

Because we understand, it just takes one single piece of enlightening information to change a heart.

We have done a good "GOD" job!

I THANK YOU all for your hard work, for your selfless dedication, and believing in the truth that God does provide.

I THANK YOU, for freely giving of your gifts to each other ,
and for passing on to others the friendship, joy and spiritual fulfillment, that come from the sweat of an honest day's work.

We don't do this alone.

So I hope this brings as much GOD into your heart, as it surely does to mine!



The Balloon Man was a favorite with kids.



Band R8:2
Great
Worship
music!



Tina with
Council Member
Blong Xiong



Devin Hallier
with the
K9 Officer

June 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
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Elder on call: Natalie Hodgson</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">Pastor Natalie on vacation May 31-June 16</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Church office closed June 6-10 for vacation</div>			1☺ <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div> 7:15 pm Choir	2 10:00 am O.A.	3* <i>Pastor's day off</i> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service	4 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 am O.A. 10:30 am O.A. 7:00 pm A.A.
5 †9:15 am <u>Adult Bible Study</u> †10:30 am <u>Worship Service</u> <i>Global Missions Potluck (following Worship service)</i>	6 7:15 Bible Study at the Hodgsons'	7 10:00 am O.A. 5:30 pm Miracle Day Meeting 6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study	8☺ <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div> 7:15 pm Choir	9 10:00 am O.A.	10* <i>Pastor's day off</i> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service	11 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10:30 am O.A. 7:00 pm A.A.
12 †9:15 am <u>Adult Bible Study</u> †10:30 am <u>Worship Service</u> <i>Pentecost</i>	13 7:15 Bible Study at the Hodgsons'	14 10:00 am O.A. 6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study	15☺ <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div>	16 10:00 am O.A.	17* <i>Pastor's day off</i> <u>Newsletter Articles Due</u> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service	18 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10:30 am O.A. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Emily Grace's 5th Birthday Party! </div> 7:00 pm A.A.
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;">Youth Camp – June 12-17</div>						
19 †9:15 am <u>Adult Bible Study</u> †10:30 am <u>Worship Service</u> <i>Fathers Day</i>	20 MHACV 6-9 pm 7:15 Bible Study at the Hodgsons'	21 10:00 am O.A. 6:30 pm Elders Meeting 6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study	22☺ <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div>	23 10:00 am O.A. 10:00am Youth Team Meeting 5 pm PIC/UCC Partnership Mtg.	24* <i>Pastor's day off</i> PIC 6:00 pm Spanish Service	25 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 10:30 am O.A. 7:00 pm A.A.

<p>26 †9:15 am <u>Adult Bible Study</u></p> <p>†10:30 am <u>Worship Service</u></p> <p>Celebration Sunday (Potluck after Worship service)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>NO Bible Study at the Hodgsons'</p>	<p>28 10:00 am O.A.</p> <p>6 pm – 8 pm PIC Bible Study</p>	<p>29☺</p> <div style="border: 2px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6pm WOW</div>	<p>30 10:00 am O.A.</p>		
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