



November 2009

Newsletter of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa, California

Reach Up, Reach Out!

The purpose of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa is to create a loving community of faith that expresses itself through both personal spirituality and social responsibility; reaching up to God and reaching out to all people in God's love with experiences that challenge, change, inspire and engage.

Oneness in Christ Statement

We affirm that all persons are precious to God and of sacred worth. God pours out amazing love and grace to everyone.

We seek to be an inclusive church. We warmly invite into our life and mission all people without regard to race, nationality, sexual orientation, ability, age, gender, financial circumstances, or marital status.

We are a large and diverse community of faith. We certainly do not always agree on theology or public issues. Our desire, however, is to build bridges of understanding and mutual respect. Above all, we seek to love one another as Christ has loved us.

We are learning that the words of our founder, John Wesley, are true: "We do not have to think alike to love alike."

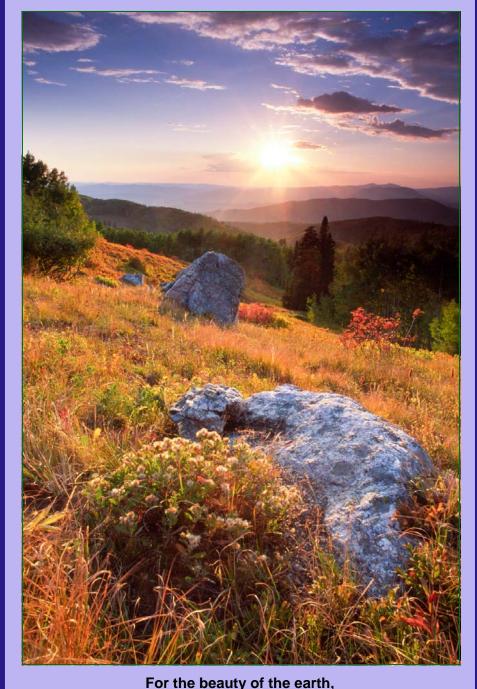
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First United Methodist Church

2150 Giffen Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95407

1551 Montgomery Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95405

phone 707-545-3863 fax 707-545-5375 www.FumcSantaRosa.org



For the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies; Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

Practical Matters

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm Closed for lunch 12 noon - 1 pm Closed Friday

Mailing Address

First United Methodist Church 1551 Montgomery Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Ministry Sites

Please see back cover for worship times and locations. Montgomery Campus 1551 Montgomery Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Stony Point Campus 2150 Giffen Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Submitting Articles for the Monthly Roseleaf: Please email your information no later than the 5th of the month to communications@fumcsantarosa.org. If you are attaching a document to your email, Microsoft Word is preferred, with a minimum of formatting. Don't have email? A neatly-typed or handwritten article is fine.

Submitting Information for the Bulletin: Please email your information no later than Monday at 12 noon to communications@fumcsantarosa.org. Don't have email? A neatly-typed or handwritten article is fine. Weekly bulletin notices should be brief.

Roseleaf Editor: Connie Bergquist, communications@fumcsantarosa.org, 707-545-3863, extension 203

November



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All-Church Activities



Be a Part of

Connected Worship

Sunday, November 8 10:00 AM ONE SERVICE ONLY THREE SETTINGS





You have your choice of:

- Traditional setting in the Montgomery Sanctuary
- •Praise worship at the Stony Point Ministry Center
- •Coffeehouse setting in Fields Fellowship Hall at Montgomery

There will be only one service that day, but we will be connected into one large, joyous church family.

Come see how it's done!

Snowflake Bazaar

Presented by the United Methodist Women of FUMC

Saturday, November 21, 9 am - 3
pm
Fields Fellowship Hall
Montgomery Campus



- Jams, Jellies, and Candies
- Vinegars, Oils, and Seasonings
- Baked Goods
- Fair Trade Coffee and Tea
- Pet and Bird Treats
- Embroidered Towels and Linens
- Knitted and Crocheted Items
- Handcrafted Dolls
- Christmas Crafts and Decor



Cookie Walk

Create a selection of your favorites!

Proceeds support the outreach missions of the United Methodist Women.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner

Thursday, November 26, 12 noon Fields Fellowship Hall Montgomery Campus

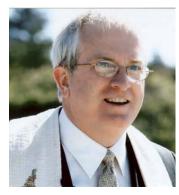
Make your plans to join us once again for a great Thanksgiving Day meal. We provide the turkey, ham, dressing, potatoes, garnish, and drinks. We ask that you bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Everyone is invited: you, your entire family, your friends

Want to help? There are lots of opportunities! You can sign up on Sunday mornings—and remember: early-bird cooks are treated to Chef Andy Kawecki's famous full-course, country-style breakfast!



Notes from Pastor Greg



Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations Reach Up! Reach Out! A Plan for the Future

The Rev. Robert Schnase (Bishop, Missouri Conference, UMC), in his book *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, insists that although the people of the United Methodist Church know that the mission of the church is to experience and share the love of Jesus Christ, "they are seeking to understand how to fit this larger mission into their lives and into their churches in a *practical* way." He believes we can respond to this heartfelt desire of the people by getting back to core church practice, namely:

The Practice of Radical Hospitality: offering the gracious invitation, welcome, and hospitality of Christ so that people experience a sense of belonging.

The Practice of Passionate Worship: creating worship that shapes souls and changes minds so that people will desire to grow closer to God and connect with each other in a loving community of faith.

The Practice of Intentional Faith Development: learning together within community so that God's spirit will nurture people and mature their faith.

The Practice of Risk-Taking Mission and Service: encouraging people to discern God's call in their lives so that the mission and service of the church will flourish.

The Practice of Extravagant Generosity: inspiring people to give generously of themselves and their resources so that others can receive the grace and love they experience.

Bishop Schnase goes on to say that these fundamental practices express "qualities that are irresistible because they move us from abstract intentions to personal directions for ministry. Once our mission becomes practical and personal, it becomes memorable and achievable. . . . Followers of Christ aspire to grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of God. They do so by repeating, learning, and deepening their personal practice of gracious hospitality, by placing themselves regularly under the influence of God's spirit in worship, by intentionally seeking to grow in Christ-likeness through learning in community, and by practicing compassion and generosity in concrete ways."

In the month of November, Pastors Joe, Dave, and I will be discussing these practices in a sermon series, evaluating the fruitfulness of our own harvest. In addition, we have chosen to talk about these practices during the Building Campaign to remind us that when the church talks about mortgages, renovations, new buildings, and the appropriate use of technology, we are primarily talking about issues of discipleship and stewardship. After all, the Building Campaign only represents the tangible obligations, resources, investments, and tools necessary to support the practices of the church that define how we "reach up to God, and reach out to all people in God's love." I wonder what God has in store for FUMC as we prepare for the future harvests?

In God's Love and with Great Expectations,

Pastor Greg



Notes on Our Building Fund Campaign

REACH UP! REACH OUT! A Plan for the Future

In 2008 our congregation made three monumental decisions.



- Adopt a PURPOSE STATEMENT, based on our previous Mission and Vision statements:
 - "The purpose of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa is to create a loving community of faith that expresses itself through both personal spirituality and social responsibility; reaching up to God and reaching out to all people in God's love with experiences that challenge, change, inspire and engage."
- 2. Adopt a ministry focus: Children and Youth
- 3. Adopt our *Plan for the Future.*

As approved at our annual church conference, the Plan laid out three phases to be implemented in 5 - 7 years, with increases in our operating budget totaling \$373,000, and the raising of building funds totaling \$1,685,000. With the 10% increase in giving we experienced in this past spring's operating budget campaign, we have begun to implement the operating pieces of the plan, with increases in our apportionment payments, and funding of the children and youth positions which are currently supported by the Barbara Ferguson gift.



The *Building Fund Campaign* proposes to raise \$1,700,000 over 5 years to fully implement the Plan.

The specific uses would be:

Phase One

• Continue to pay on current debt - \$830,000

Phase Two

• Install play field and new sign at Stony Point - \$30,000

Phase Three

- Build Youth Activities Facility at Stony Point \$600,000
- Upgrade Montgomery campus (office space, classrooms, new sign, Fields Fellowship Hall) \$150,000
- Develop video streaming ("one message, many locations") \$75,000.

As a congregation with a bold view of the future, a faith that God is in the work we are doing, and a people of generous hearts, we are facing the challenge to take our ministry to new heights, and to make a tremendous difference here in Sonoma County and beyond. It brings to mind a line from a hymn sung in a recent service, "...with bold new decisions, your people arise..."

How is God calling you to be a part of this wonderful plan?

Children's Ministries



Bible Sunday

We congratulate the Sunday School students who received gift Bibles and workbooks from the church on Sunday, October 18! We hope that they will treasure them in the years to come. Special thanks to the Gladys Wycoff Bible Fund of the United

Methodist Foundation for graciously supporting this annual event, and to Jean Hart for the beautiful inscriptions. This year's recipients include:

- Michael Acquistapace
- Gareth Alves
- Bailey Bowen
- Spencer George Cunningham
- Harrison B. Frankl
- Michael Delgado
- Oden Georgedes
- Jacqueline Renee Hale
- Sedona Howell
- Lindsey Elena Krammer
- Noah Marshall
- Mia Danielle Sedgwick
- Marian Rose Sereni
- Brianna Sifuentes
- Nathan Simons



Charlie Brown and His Gang Headed Our Way!

Get ready for an all-Peanuts Advent and Christmas season at FUMC. It's not too late to join in the fun as we prepare a series of Advent worship skits and a special *Peanuts Children's Christmas Eve Service* based on the Charles Schultz characters we all know and love. Kids and parents are welcome to participate; we need: actors, prayer presenters, scripture readers, musicians, crew, helpers, and whatever other creative talent you have to offer! Actors need to be willing to make a significant commitment to the presentation. All are welcome to be involved. Please contact Sadie Luke, Coordinator of Children's Creative Arts Ministries, for details at: 794-9720, or luke@sonoma.edu.

Women's Ministries



Going In Circles

United Methodist Women has 6 fellowship groups called *Circles* that meet monthly September through June. All women are welcome to join any of these groups.

Anna Circle

When: Tuesday, November 17, 9:45 am

Where: Susanna Wesley House, Montgomery Campus

Contact: Doris Guyon

Friendship Circle

Friendship Circle will not hold their regular meeting in November but will instead participate in the Snowflake Bazaar.

Lydia Circle

Please Note: Lydia Circle has changed their regular meeting

time to the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm.

When: Thursday, November 12, 7 pm Where: at the home of Peg Ferrel

Contact: Mary Brunet

Naomi Circle

When: Wednesday, November 11, 9:45 am

Where: Susanna Wesley House, Montgomery Campus

Program: Work on Snowflake Bazaar projects

Contact: Dian Jorgensen

Ruth Circle

When: Monday, November 9, 7:30 pm Where: at the home of a member Program: Discussion of favorite books

Contact: Claudia Ward

VITI Circle (Fijian Language Ministry)

When: Saturday, November 28, 8:00 pm

Where: Williams Parlor Contact: Mere Ponijiasi

The UMW Board will meet at 9:30 am on October 6 in the Carriage House, Montgomery Campus.

First United Methodist Church · phone 707-545-3863 · fax 707-545-5375 ·

Youth Ministries



Middle School Christmas Play Practice Begins November 1

Play will be performed December 13





Ice Skating Sunday, November 29

Middle School High School College



Meet at Snoopy's Home Ice Arena 1:30-4:30 pm \$12 Includes Skate rental

Order your official SCUMY t-shirt at www.scumy.org

Need more info about Youth Ministries? Call Cassandra at 545-3863, x206.



Creative Arts Ministries

2010 Winter Musical

It's not too early to starting thinking about how you want to participate in the 2010 winter musical! Once again, the Creative Arts Ministries Advisory Board (CAMAB) will deliver an original, full-length musical production with rehearsals in January and February, and performances in March. Actors, stage crew, carpenters, singers, and dancers--there's a place for everyone! This will be the third major production from the FUMC Players, and features music composed by members of our own praise band! Please contact Mary Brunet with your enthusiastic questions.

Looking Ahead to Christmas Music

Plans and preparations for the annual holiday music programs by your FUMC musicians are well underway. Of special note is the concert for Saturday, December 19, 7 pm, at R.L. Stevens School, which features Carols Old and New. A repeat performance will be given Sunday, December 20, 3 pm, at Montgomery Sanctuary. Watch for details, but mark your calendars now!



Reaching Out



Annual Thanksgiving Offering

Each year, FUMC takes a special Thanksgiving Offering. This year, our offering will be divided between projects overseas and some in our local community.

One half will support missionaries around the world through the World Service Fund of our United Methodist Connectional Giving. To learn more about the World Service Fund, go to www.umcgiving.org/worldservicefund.

The other half of our offering will stay in our local community, being distributed to FISH (Friends in Service Here), Drug Abuse Alternative Center (DAAC), and Habitat for Humanity.

Each of these organizations fill a special need in our community.

- The Drug Abuse Alternatives Center: DAAC is one of the largest and oldest drug and alcohol abuse prevention and treatment organizations in Northern California. DAAC's mission is to reduce the negative impact of alcohol and other drug use upon individuals, families, schools, and our community. DAAC provides counseling services to more than 2,500 individuals, as well as education, outreach, and testing services to an additional 21,000 individuals in our community each year.
- Habitat for Humanity: FUMC has a covenant relationship with Habitat to help build houses for low-income people in Sonoma County. Habitat is currently seeking funds to start houses in Healdsburg, and we have promised to help.
- FISH: We have long been a supporting church for the FISH food cupboard. As the economy worsens, more and more people turn to FISH for help. This offering will help stock their shelves for the holiday season.

Angels' Attic Update

Thank you to all those who have newly signed on to help us at Angels' Attic, and an additional thank you to all those who continue to volunteer. We are so grateful for your support!

Our thrift store is full of fine, quality merchandise – from clothes to home décor, tools to books, furniture to infant gear. There's something for everyone! Items are priced very reasonably so that those in need as well as those who like to find real bargains can afford to shop there. Periodically we have great sales, often monthly, and we always have 50% off selections.

We thank everyone who has been donating items to our outreach store. That really keeps us busy, and gives our customers lots to choose from. The number of shoppers continues to increase as word gets out about our store's quality, cleanliness, and friendly personnel. We welcome your donations – we just ask that items be clean, in good shape, and in working order.

Store-wide SALE!

November 17-19 Tues - Thurs Drop by, shop, and say hello! Of course, we can always use more volunteers, so if you've been thinking about helping, or are looking for a comfortable place to give back to the community, give us a try. Whether you volunteer for one day or several, you'll find the time spent is rewarding. If you've never worked in a retail situation before, don't worry. We have many experienced volunteers to show you the ropes, and we gladly offer OJT (on-the-job training) for those who are willing to work the cash register.

For more information or to find out where you can help, please contact Tamara at 584-8063, or Kellie at 579-9022.



Angels on Call

"My prayer shawl warms me in two ways. It warms my shoulders, and I can feel the love of my church family and that of the person who made it." Bob Wycoff responded to the question about the impact the prayer shawl had on his life. Jeanette Kemmerer states that the shawl "meant that I had the love of my church family. I could feel the prayers surrounding me whenever I wore it."

These members of the FUMC church family and many others have received prayer shawls. Members of the church knit the shawls. They are prayed over and lovingly distributed to members and friends who are in need of a touch of God's

love and comfort as they face personal challenges. This is just one of the outreach and support activities of our *Angels* on *Call*.

Through notations on the "I Am Here" cards, as well as other sources of information, *Angels on Call* stand ready to provide support to those in need. This help may include cards, phone calls or visits, meals, rides to doctor appointments, in-home communion, the loan of medical equipment, the delivery of plants or cookies at holiday time, and many other personal touches that help brighten the lives of our members in need.

If you have a need, or would like to become a part of *Angels on Call*, please contact Pat Sanborn Pavliger at the church office, or via email at pat.sanborn@FumcSantaRosa.org.



Reaching Out

Give the Gift of Life: Become An Organ Donor

Dear Church Family,

As a member of the FUMC, I want to make each of you aware of the facts about transplantation. If you want to hear my story, please be sure to attend services on Donor Sabbath, November 15.

Our congregation supports and encourages organ and tissue donation as the ultimate gift from one person to another. For more information, please contact the California Transplant Donor Network at 888-570-9400. You can sign up to be an organ and tissue donor at: www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org, or www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org.

Sincerely, Bob Young

Transplantation Facts

- All major religions support organ, eye, and tissue donation as an unselfish act of charity.
- Approximately **78** organ transplants take place every day in the U.S.
- On average, a single tissue donor can save or enhance the lives of up to **75** people.
- More than 28,000 patients began new lives last year thanks to organ transplants.
- Approximately 33,000 patients had their sight restored last year through cornea transplants.
- Living donors can provide a kidney, or a portion of their liver, lung, pancreas or intestine.
- Almost two-thirds of all living donors are relatives of their recipient, most commonly siblings.
- The number of unrelated living donors has more than tripled since 1998.
- To learn more about living donation visit www.transplantliving.org/livingdonation.
- One in 10 deceased donors is age 65 or over.
- Sadly, an average of 18 patients die every day while waiting, simply because the organ they needed did not become available in time.
- On average, 133 people are added to the nation's organ transplant waiting list each day—one every 11 minutes.
- People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors. Your medical condition at the time of death will determine what organs and tissue can be donated.
- More than 99,000 people in the U.S. are currently waiting for an organ transplant. More than 600 of them are 5 years old or younger.
- Annually, there are more than 25,000 tissue donors and 40,000 cornea donors.
- More than 1 million tissue transplants are done each year and the surgical need for tissue has been steadily rising.

Fair Trade Halloween Chocolate a Big Success!



Thanks to all who purchased Fair Trade MINIS for Halloween. Together, we purchased over seventy packages of twenty-five each. That's a whopping 1,750 MINIS, or eighteen pounds, that were given to children on Halloween to support Fair Trade. The children of Africa thank you for your support.

Outreach and Service Commission

Fairly-traded products are available every Sunday morning at both campuses. You can purchase coffee, tea, chocolate, cocoa, and olive oil at the Montgomery Campus in Fellowship Hall following the 8 am service, and between the 9:30 and 11 am services. At Stony Point, look for fairly-traded products on the patio.

Cal-Nevada Conference Assumes New Pattern of Connection

Our United Methodist Annual Conference is composed of approximately 350 local churches in Northern California and much of Nevada. Under the leadership of Bishop Warner Brown, those churches are organizing themselves in new ways.

Previously, seven district superintendents supervised regions (districts) of about 50 churches each. Beginning last July, Bishop Brown reorganized his cabinet to five district superintendents. In order to free up their time for "big picture" work, he has asked the pastors of the conference to oversee church conferences, and spend more time with one another in cooperative ministry.

In order to do this, all of the pastors of our conference have been organized into "circuits." A circuit is a grouping of about 8 to 10 pastors who will meet together regularly to facilitate ministry in the local churches. Pastors Greg and Joe are now part of the Sonoma Circuit, which includes the churches in Windsor, Sebastopol, Sonoma, Rohnert Park, Forestville, and Christ Church here in Santa Rosa. The pastors of these churches will be presiding over each other's all-church annual conferences. Our FUMC All-Church conference (December 5) will be led by Pastor Pam Cummings, our circuit leader.

Please keep all our United Methodist congregations in your prayers as we work together to share God's love, and more effectively reach out to and serve those in our many communities.

Our Church Family

New Welcome Brochure Makes It Easy to "Tell a Friend"

Recently our Welcome Team completed work on a new church brochure entitled "A Place for You." Designed especially for those who are new to FUMC, this attractive, compact booklet gives an overview of our church life and ministry.

Our welcome team would love to have you make use of this new brochure. In many ways, all of us, the people of FUMC, are ambassadors. We are the ones who can best share our church family with others. Our new brochure makes it a bit easier to do that. As you mention our church to friends or neighbors, feel free to hand them a brochure at the same time.

You'll see stacks of the brochures on the welcome tables at each campus. The friendly graphics and full-color photos make this beautiful booklet something that you will be proud to share with others. Please take one, hand it to a friend, and let them know that FUMC is the place for them!

2010 Flower Dedications



Remember when, at our Montgomery Campus, we had flower signups for both the Sanctuary AND Fellowship Hall? Well, those days are back! Sometimes the special date you want remembered is already reserved by someone else. Beginning in January, there will be two opportunities for the same date, so take your pick. The price is still the same—

\$12.50—a real bargain!

Flower dedications can also be made at our Stony Point Campus. Look for the 2010 signup calendar on the kiosk.

United Methodist Foundation Board Profile

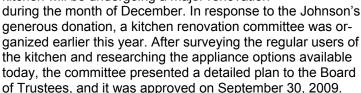
Pamala Robbins, a member of FUMC since 1995, has served on several church committees and is currently Chair of the Church Council. During 2006 and 2007, she served as Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Pamala's professional background is reflected in every role she takes at FUMC. She holds a Masters in Business Administration, and has worked as a Human Resource Manager. Pamala has worked in local government for thirty years.

Of her position on the Foundation Board, Pamala says: "It is a privilege and an honor to serve on the United Methodist Foundation Board. I am pleased to be part of an organization that faithfully and with Godly principles receives and honors gifts that forever share God's grace and love. I see the Foundation as an integral partner of the church's ministry. It is my hope that the Foundation will continue to grow and seek new opportunities to provide people with the joy of giving, both as a way of living and in response to God's generosity."

Montgomery Kitchen Renovation!

Due to a generous gift from Doris Johnson and her beloved late husband, Harold, we are able to announce that the Montgomery kitchen will be undergoing a major renovation



The renovation includes:

- upgrading stoves and ovens
- replacing heavy china with lighter weight china for easier use and to minimize the use of disposables
- · replacing existing flatware
- adding ample heavy-duty glassware to minimize the use of disposables
- upgrading coffee service to a commercial-grade plumbed coffee maker
- reorganizing and labeling existing cabinets and drawers, and adding new cabinets for additional locked storage
- replacing and upgrading pots, pan, and utensils as needed
- thorough cleaning of entire kitchen
- painting and repair work as needed

The committee plans to sell, donate, or make available to other churches or nonprofits the appliances, dishware, and equipment we will no longer be using.

The renovation is scheduled to begin the Monday after Thanksgiving and continue through the holidays, hopefully reaching completion by Monday, January 4, 2010. Training for use of the new stove, and effective use of the dishwasher, will be held after the renovated kitchen is dedicated in January.

We are very grateful to the Johnsons for their generous gift. Our church family will benefit from these improvements for years to come.

A Thank You Note

To My Church Family:

Thank You to a wonderful congregation for all of your support during my recent surgery and recovery time. Surgery was a complete success and the doctor says I'm cancer free. I appreciate your thoughts, prayers, cards, calls, visits, flowers, and food. Your support was overwhelming! What a wonderful church to be a part of.

Love,

Diane Jackson



Taking Care of Business

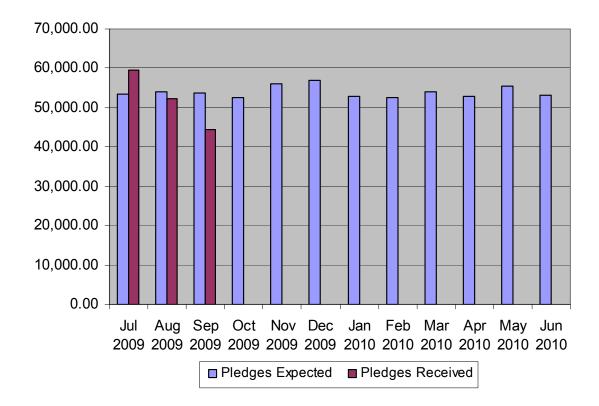
Monthly News From the Finance Committee

September income, from all sources, was \$49,039, and expenses were \$56,378, resulting in a monthly deficit of \$7,339 (excluding income and expenses related to the Barbara Ferguson gift). Pledged contributions received in September were \$9,241 below our goal of \$53,729 for the month. For fiscal year-to-date (3 months), excess income over expenses amounts to \$2,063 because of a good July.

September 2009	* Pledges and Gifts Other Revenues * Total	Current Period \$48,357 \$682 \$49,039	Year to Date \$168,817 \$2,575 \$171,392	Compare Last Year \$151,166 \$4,928 \$156,094
	Expenses			
	* Operations and Programs	\$48,878	\$146,829	\$146,582
	Apportionments	\$7,500	\$22,500	\$18,000
	* Total	\$56,378	\$169,329	\$164,582
	Excess Income/Expenses	-\$7,339	\$2,063	-\$8,488

^{*} Does not include income or expenses related to the Barbara Ferguson gift.

Pledges '09—'10



ust for the principal of it! banks have produced a significant savings in interest we will pay over the life of our mortgage. Through September, contributions have been \$22,354.02. Applying this to the principal has resulted in interest savings of \$12,801.27! Let's continue to put our extra coins in those banks, help reduce our debt, and save on interest. These interest savings can be used to support our ministries.

Bring back those banks you have lovingly collected—we continue to run short of spares. You can drop them off at the church office or give them to an usher at any church service.

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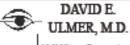
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Our Worship Services and Christian Education

Montgomery Campus

Sunday Morning Worship: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am

Fijian Language Ministry: 12:30 pm

Sunday School: 9:30 am Nursery: 8:45 - 12:00 noon Adult Classes: 11:00 am

<u>Stony Point Campus</u> Sunday Morning Worship: 10:45 am with Nursery

Sunday School: 10:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am

Sonoma County Youth Group: Sundays, Middle School 4-6 pm, High School 5-7 pm, Stony Point Campus Spirit Café: Tuesday evening at Montgomery, 5:45 to 6:45 pm; light supper and informal worship

Roseleaf Guidelines

Please e-mail your articles and photos to communications@fumcsantarosa.org by the 5th of the month for them to be included in the following month's Roseleaf. Please be sure to include your name and contact information with each article.

> Roseleaf, a monthly publication of the FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH