

University Presbyterian Church

University Press

"Where love of God and love of neighbor live at the heart of our life together."

January 2010

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Come, Drink from the Well on the Hill by Pastor Tedd Lyons

The season of Epiphany begins in January. The twelve days of Christmas end on January 5. January 6 is the Feast of Epiphany, and on that day we celebrate the light (the Star) that drew the Gentiles (represented by the "Wise Men") to Jesus Christ.

During the season of Epiphany we also have a "secular" holiday on our calendar, the birthday of Martin Luther King. Of course, the coming together of these two things is a coincidence.... or is it?

James Taylor, the pop singer, wrote a song that, it seems to me, brings the two together, and helps me understand what Epiphany calls me to do and be. It begins :

*"Let us turn our thoughts today ...
To Martin Luther King ..And recognize
that there are ties between us ...All
men and women ...Living on the Earth
...Ties of hope and love ...Sister and
brotherhood ...That we are bound
together ...In our desire to see the
world become ...A place in which our
children ...Can grow free and strong
...We are bound together ...By the
task that stands before us ...And the
road that lies ahead ...We are bound
and we are bound."*

Then the chorus includes a short prayer: *"Shed a little light, oh Lord ...
So that we can see...Just a little light,
oh Lord."*

Then these words:

*"Can't get no light from the dollar
bill ...Don't give me no light from a TV
screen ...When I open my eyes ...I*

*wanna drink my fill ...From the well
on the hill ...(do you know what I
mean?)*

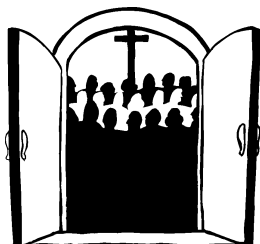
That is the line that catches my attention. I think I do "know what he means." Recognizing the desire that binds all people together is a good thing, and it has power. But sadly, that desire has produced as much evil as good. So what we need is "Epiphany," to drink from the well on the hill. "The well on the hill" is Jesus Christ. He is the one who promised the woman of another race, a race rejected by His own people, that He would give her (and everyone who asks) water that would "become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." (John 4:14)

This year we will be making an experiment in drinking "from the well on the hill". On Wednesday, January 6, Epiphany, we will gather people from our congregation into small potluck groups. Members who are English speaking will sit at table with others who are Lao speaking. We will share food, fellowship and life in Jesus Christ, "the well on the hill". If you have not already signed up when you read this, please do so by calling the church office, or signing up at church on January 3.

When we trust Jesus Christ, the One who is the light that draws all people to Himself, we have no control over what will come. But we do know that His promises are true and good, and He has promised that those who drink from the well on the hill "will never be thirsty".

Unity in Christ

Plan to be a part of
the Congregational
Meeting
Sunday, January 24,
in the Great Room



Congregational
MEETING



Laos Partners — One More Thing

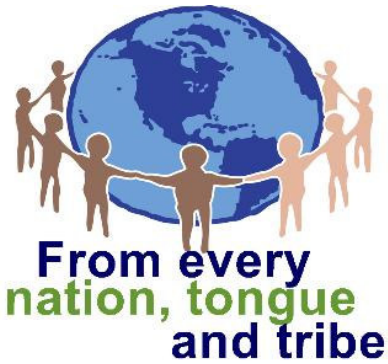
Last month we reported on our *Living Waters for the World* installation at the Luang Prabang Teachers College, and the great experience of being able to partner with a group of competent and enthusiastic staff members. This group included biology, chemistry, and physics professors.

Our 102 training classes, which were heavily focused on sanitation and means to prevent the spread of harmful bacteria, were especially well-received. We used illustrations and Pla-Doh to demonstrate the presence and propagation of germs.

It was during that training when we learned that all their knowledge about germs and bacteria was strictly

academic, since the LPTC did not own or have access to a single microscope.

We are preparing to send another team to Laos next spring, and are hopeful that team members will be able to take a couple of microscopes with them on that trip. If anyone is aware of any old, but serviceable microscopes available for donation, please contact either John or Lorna Bosavanh or Sandra Eaton.



Adult Education — Learning Lao

The Adult Education Ministries and the Lao congregation is sponsoring a class to teach English speakers how to speak Lao. The class would start in January and run through June. It would take place during the Adult Education hour except during congregational events and holidays. The intent of the class is to teach English speakers survival Lao and to speak and

understand our church liturgy in Lao. There will be times throughout the six-month period to join the class if you cannot start in January, but it is not intended to be a drop-in class.

Please email Cordie Qualle if you would like to participate.

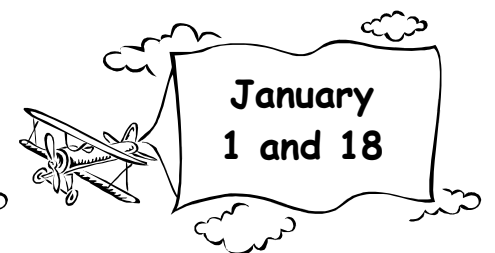
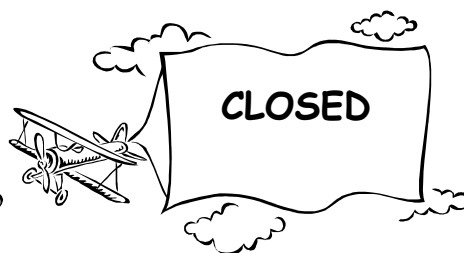


Presbyterian Women “go” to Laos

Presbyterian Women will meet Tuesday, January 12, at 9:30 a.m. in the Great Room. Sharon Stanley will report on the recent trip to Laos to install a

water purification system. All UPC women are welcome.

Come for “a mission trip” together.



Taizé Prayer Weekend 2010

Taizé Prayer Weekend 2010, an ecumenical Christian prayer event, will be held Jan. 29-30 at University Presbyterian.

It starts Friday at 6 p.m. with registration, coffee and "Taizé Witness and Prayer" led by Jim Grant. A Taizé worship service begins at 8 p.m.

Saturday starts with a gathering at 8:00 a.m. and includes three Taizé prayer services: morning, midday and afternoon. There will be two general sessions and the opportunity to choose two workshop sessions. The morning general session, led by Dr. Chris Erdman, is "Entering the Silence." The afternoon general session is "Christian

Witness in a Pluralistic World" led by the Rev. Bet Hannon. The prayer-experience sessions include walking the labyrinth; "How Can We Do 'Greater Works': A Response to Jesus' Challenge;" *Lectio Divina*: Praying with Scripture: Luke 24: 36-49;" "Spiritual Direction: Companions On the Journey;" "Earth Prayers;" and the art room.

Registration is \$25 (includes lunch) per person if received before Jan. 22, \$30 after that.

Scholarships are available.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Nelson at (559) 431-2630 or at elizn@csufresno.edu.



Annual Prayer of the Heart Conference, Feb. 19-20

In our turbulent world, it's easy to let distraction and turmoil scatter us and leave us spiritually dull and cold. This retreat explores the resurgence of the Prayer of the Heart among the 14th century English spiritual writers and mystics: Richard Rolle, Walter Hilton, Julian of Norwich and the anonymous writer of *The Cloud of Unknowing*. There was nothing easy about living in the 14th century, but these witnesses lived a life rooted in Jesus Christ in such a way that their world felt His grace.

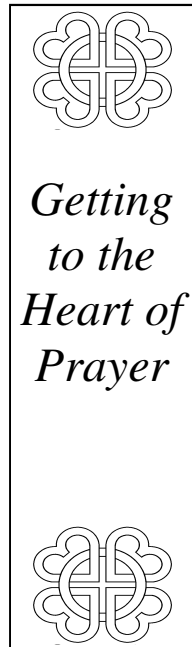
Learn about the English School of Spirituality, led by Dr. Robert Hale of

the New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur, Dr. Steve Varvis, historian at Fresno Pacific University, and Dr. Chris Erdman of University Presbyterian.

Sessions are Friday, February 19, at 7 p.m., Saturday morning through mid-afternoon Sunday the 20th. \$30 includes lunch.

Contact the office for more information and to register. Also see the brochures available in the kiosk in the narthex.

This conference is open to the community, so please invite a friend and spread the Word.



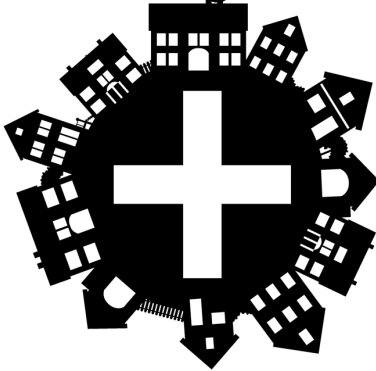
UPC Prayer Corner

We continue to pray for those facing health and personal challenges.



If you would like the UPC prayer chain to pray for you, or someone else, call Sue Vinicor.

Loving and



serving our
community

Tailgate 2009

The Evangelism Committee hosted the second annual UPC complimentary tailgate event at church on Saturday Nov. 21. In appreciation for all of the loyal Bulldog football fans who park at the UPC lot during the home game season, the UPC Evangelism Committee cooked up around 240 hotdogs and hamburgers. Along with the BBQ delight, chips, sodas and UPC bottled waters were given away to those who parked in the lot, those who walked by and to some of the neighborhood residents. Serving started around noon and was finished by 2:00 p.m. The BBQ was set up near Roberts Avenue, adjacent to the sanctuary, along with

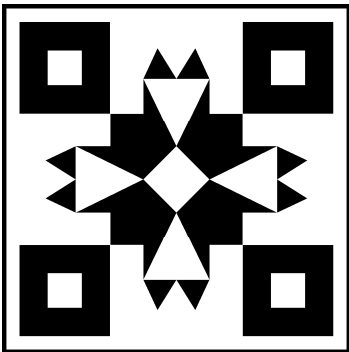
Doug Haas, Evangelism Chair

several tables and chairs. Two remote service areas were used this year – one at the west end of the parking lot and one at the corner of Cedar and Roberts. A lot of fun was had by all. A big thank you goes out to the following UPCers for their assistance in making this event take place: Bob Sinclair, Bob Mitchell, Chris Erdman, Joe Wilson, Byron Morgan, Larry Leeds, John Sunderson, John Kallenberg, Ruth Kallenberg, James Swanson, Cordie Qualle, Andrew Manion and David Manion. To top off the afternoon, the Bulldogs prevailed against Louisiana Tech!

Gals' Night

Gals' Night meets on Jan. 28 for an evening of **Quilt Pink**. We will be arranging quilt blocks to be sewn later into quilts for breast cancer patients. Come support this worthwhile

cause - no experience necessary - just a desire to help and enjoy an evening of women's fellowship! Hope to see some new faces on 1/28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Great Room.



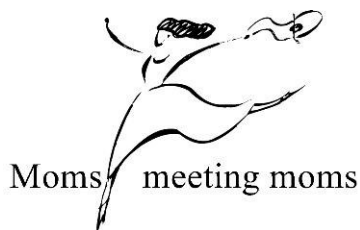
Attention, Moms!

All mothers with children newborn through high school are invited to attend a new social group whose focus is to nurture you as a mother.

Our first meeting will be Monday, Jan. 18, in the Great Room at 7 p.m. During this month's meeting time, we will snack on yummy foods, listen to an inspiring speaker and share with one another about the joys and challenges of being moms.

In order for you to completely enjoy this mom's night out, we are requesting that you leave your children at home with a spouse or other child-care provider. However, prearranged, limited child care will be provided if other means of child care are not available.

For questions or to RSVP your attendance, please contact either Melissa Manion or Wendy Warnes.



Moms meeting moms

Save the Date...

February

Mark your calendars for Sunday, Feb. 28, at 3 p.m. at UPC. A hymn festival will be presented for your participation and enjoyment by the San Joaquin Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Studying a Christian Classic

This year's Christian Classic Adult Class will discuss Thomas Merton's "Seven Storey Mountain." The first class will be at 11:00 a.m., following the unified service on January 3. There will be four more classes in the weeks that

follow, all meeting at 9:45 a.m. between the two services. There will not be a class on January 4 or 31.

Lenten Study Groups

During Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday (February 17), we will again form Lenten groups for study

and fellowship. Sign-ups will be held beginning January 17.

STARS Discuss "Finishing Well"

Join the STARS (Seniors That Are Really Special) on Wednesday, January 20, at 1:30 p.m. in the Great Room. Pastor Tedd will lead a discussion on "Finishing Well." We will talk about the life events of our elder

years and how to prepare for them. We invite everyone to come, including seniors, those approaching their senior years and those who are caregivers to seniors. Let's all learn from each other!

A Mountaintop Experience for Men

Registrations for the Men's Retreat (held at Calvin Crest March 5-7) will be received during January on the Patio after the services. All men of the church and those they invite are welcome. The

cost is \$165 for Cedar Lodge and \$120 for Mountain View cabins. Scholarships are available.

Baby Shower for Melissa Stephenson

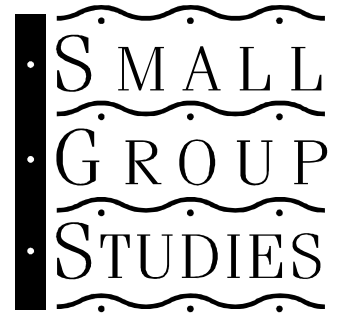
Melissa Stephenson, our church secretary, is having a baby boy! Please join us in showering her with love, good wishes and baby items on Sunday, January 24, at 2 p.m. Melissa is registered at Target and Babies R Us. All are invited to meet in the Great Room for

light refreshments and socializing. Please RSVP to Melissa Manion in the church office by Thursday, January 21, if you will be able to attend.

Clippers Go Bunko

The annual Bunko party will be held on Friday, January 15 at 6:30 p.m. Please call the Ericksons at 447-5336 or the Swansons at 439-6519

to indicate your plans to attend. The deadline to RSVP is Sunday, January 10.



*Joyful
things come
in a bundle*



January



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day Office Closed 8th Day of Christmas	2 9th Day of Christmas
3 Communion 10th Day of Christmas	4 11th Day of Christmas	5 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study cry room 3:30 Computer Lab 7 p.m. Deacons 12th Day of Christmas	6 EPIPHANY	7	8	9 Leadership retreat
10 Baptism of the Lord Blood Pressure Screening Leader Retreat	11	12 PW 9:30 am 7p.m. Session	13	14	15	16
17 Serving at Poverello House	18 Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day 7 p.m. Mom's Group, Great Room	19 7 p.m. Prayer and Healing Service	20 STARS 1:30 p.m. Great Room	21	22	23 Reel Theology Majesty Theater
24 Congregational Meeting 9:45 Great Room 2 p.m. Melissa Stephenson's Baby Shower	25	26 7 p.m. Ministries Meetings	27	28	29	30 31 9:45 a.m. session Taize Weekend Great Room

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday

8:30 am Worship
9:45 am Teaching Hour
11:00 am Contemporary Worship
11:00 am Lao Worship

Monday

12:15 Staff Meeting
4:00 pm Youth Praise Team
6:30 pm Centering Prayer Group, cry room

Tuesday

9:30 am Women's Bible Fellowship
3:30 pm Computer Lab
6:00 pm Scouts

Wednesday

9:15 am Women's Bible Study
3:30 pm Tutoring
7:00 pm GAYG (off site)
6:30 pm Women's Ensemble
7:00 pm Chancel Choir
8:30 pm Men's Ensemble

Thursday

6:00 am For Men Only
5:30 pm Bell Choir

Friday

6:00 pm Lao Music Team

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University Presbyterian Church
1776 E. Roberts Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
559-439-8807

Non-Profit Organization
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PERMIT No. 34
Clovis, California

Return Service Requested

Hours of Worship:

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 AM (Traditional w/ASL)

11:00 AM (Contemporary)

Sunday Lao Service 11:00 AM

Sunday School 9:45 AM

Pastors:

Rev. Chris Erdman

Rev. Tedd Lyons

Rev. Sharon Stanley

Mr. John Bosavanh

Mailing Label

Wedding Coordinator Needed

UPC is in need of someone to help coordinate weddings on our campus. A wedding coordinator is expected to spend five hours with the engaged couple. These hours are often spent working out wedding details, being present during the rehearsal, set up, and the actual wedding. He/she will communicate the wants and needs of the engaged couple to the office staff to

ensure a successful wedding day. No previous experience is required, and training is provided. Wedding coordinators receive a small fee for their services. Please contact the church office if you are interested, mstephenson@upcfresno.org or 439-8807.

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is the newsletter of University Presbyterian Church.

DEADLINE

for the February Newsletter is January 15.

Small Dog Needs Someone with a Big Heart

A woman who lives in the UPC neighborhood needs someone to adopt her Chihuahua because her health is failing. Teddy is a 5-year-old male. He has his shots, but needs boosters, and he is pad-trained. He hasn't been

neutered. He's used to having company. If you can help our neighbor and open your home to Teddy, please call the church office.

