

MARCH
2010



What's Happening for Youth at Simi Valley United Methodist Church

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

[aka UMYF ... youth group ... the place to be ... etc.]

Youth in 6th thru 12th grade will want to check us out! We've got a LOT to offer!

Regular UMYF on Sunday Evenings, 6- 7:30 p.m.

Join us on Sunday nights, March 7, 21, & 28

Dinner for \$2.50 in Witman Hall @ 6 p.m.

Programs in the youth rooms from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Middle School in Rm. 12 – Sr. High in Rm. 8/9

ON MARCH 14 - NO UMYF for Sr. High, due to Sexuality Seminar *(see below)*

Middle School UMYF will meet as usual that night

Besides Sunday night youth group, check out our Study groups ... Sunday School ...

Service opportunities ... Music programs ... Retreats and Camps ... Fun activities ... and MORE!!

"LOVE, SEX & RELATIONSHIPS"

A Weekend Sexuality Seminar for Sr. High Youth & Parents

March 12, 13, & 14, 2010

Our sexuality is a beautiful gift from God ... but families can't always talk about it easily. Under the leadership of Rev, Mary Kay Will, youth and their parents have an opportunity to grow in understanding of who we all are as God's children, individually and as a family and individually. Pick up a brochure in the Sr. High youth room, Narthex, or Church Office. Questions? Contact coordinators Barbara Witman (583-3378) or Diane Thomson (526-3976).

ALSO - Join us to preview materials, ask questions, and learn more at a special **Parent Information Meeting** on Tuesday, February 23 at 7 pm in Rm. 12. Youth are welcome to attend!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is SUNDAY, FEB. 28, 2010



STARTING FRIDAY, MARCH 19 ... CONFIRMATION 2010

With co-leaders Rev. Tom Kendall and Diane Thomson

The word *confirmation* means “with firmness” ... and during the 8 weeks of Confirmation you’ll explore what it means to be a Christian, get answers to questions you may have about God and the Bible, and start to *make firm* what it is you really believe. As a teenager, we believe you’re ready to take more responsibility for your faith. Confirmation itself is a call to discipleship, a call to follow Jesus. It’s also a call to claim the name *Christian* for yourself – not because your parents or your friends are Christians, but because it’s a choice that YOU make.

Middle School and High School youth who have not yet been confirmed are invited to join Tom and Diane for this 8-week look at what it means to be a Christian ... and a United Methodist. Let us know if you’re interested – we’d love to walk alongside you on this part of your faith journey!

ATTENTION PARENTS & YOUTH -- We’re having a **Confirmation Information Meeting** in the Chapel on **Friday, March 5** from **7-8:30 pm**. Join us to find out more and get your questions answered!

YOUTH MUSIC

PERFORMANCE & PRACTICE SCHEDULE for MARCH

YOUTH PRAISE BAND

3:30 – 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Regular practices on Sundays, March 7 and March 28

Tentative practice March 14 (Sr. High Sexuality Seminar)

YPB leads music in worship on Sunday, March 21

Check with Rick for Call Time

NO AFTERNOON PRACTICE on March 21

YOUTH CHOIR - 5 – 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Regular practice on Sundays, March 7, 21, 28 ; **NO PRACTICE** March 14

Youth Choir sings on Easter (April 4) at 10:30 am service

YOUTH BELL CHOIR - 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel **Practice** Thursdays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25



***DON'T FORGET THESE
IMPORTANT YOUTH-RELATED MEETINGS***

ADULT WORKERS WITH YOUTH

Tuesday, March 9 @ 7 p.m. in Room 12
(back to our old location)

YOUTH PLANNING COUNCIL

Sunday, March 21 @ 11:45 a.m. in Room 8 / 9

SPRING BREAK SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES ...

“SPRING SERVICE ‘STRAVAGANZA’ for MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

Think the Sr. High kids only get to do the special stuff?? **NO WAY!!**

Our Middle School youth tackle day-long service projects, pairing each one with something fun! If you're interested in coming up with 2 or 3 things for us to do this year, talk to Diane — we're meeting March 7 at 11:45 am to plan this year's service & fun!



SR. HIGH EASTER WORK TRIP @ CAMP LAZY W

Tuesday, April 6 thru Saturday, April 10

COST: \$20

Want to work on your tan, spend 5 days with your friends, and serve others?

We've got the PERFECT opportunity!! Spend part of your Spring Break working at Camp Lazy W, near San Diego.

We'll be re-roofing the camp manager's house and at least one cabin ... building a small footbridge ... and anything else they need.

No experience necessary ... just a willingness to learn and a desire to serve!

Questions? Contact **Mark Witman** at 527-6501 for a permission slip.



What is it ???

Lent is the 40-day period before Easter (not counting Sundays). It officially starts on **Ash Wednesday** and ends on **Easter**. Lent is celebrated differently by different churches but is generally a time to prepare for Easter and what Jesus did for us. It's also a time to focus on our relationship with Christ. In order to do that, some people try to simplify their life by fasting, giving up chocolate, or not watching TV. During Lent this year, I challenge you to do things that draw you closer to Jesus, and to listen for God's whispers in your life. [btw -- giving up homework or chores around the house doesn't count. This is supposed to be sacrificial, you guys!]

St. Patrick's Day ... & "the Wearin' o' the Green"

Saint Patrick's Day (aka St. Paddy's or St. Patty's Day) is celebrated worldwide by wearing green, eating Irish food and/or green foods, and attending parades. Saint Patrick's Day is also a Christian festival celebrated in the Catholic Church, the Church of Ireland, and other denominations. The day almost always falls in the season of Lent.

Green ribbons and shamrocks were worn to celebrate St Patrick's Day as early as the 17th century. Wearing and displaying shamrocks and shamrock-inspired designs has become a custom because St. Patrick is said to have used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the Holy Trinity to the pre-Christian Irish. The phrase "the wearing of the green" means to wear a shamrock on one's clothing. In America, people celebrate by wearing green-colored clothing. Traditionally, if you're caught not wearing green you're pinched ... usually affectionately. Will YOU be "wearin' the green" on March 17 this year?



SIGN UP TO HELP WITH ONE (or BOTH) MARCH FUNDRAISERS FOR OUR YOUTH GROUP ...

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BAKE SALE

Sunday, March 7

Before & after church on the patio

*Bake some tasty St. Patty's Day-themed goodies,
and then help out at the Bake Sale table.*

YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH

Saturday, March 20

9 a.m. - NOON

(during the UMW Boutique)

**PROCEEDS HELP COVER COSTS FOR OUR WINTER RETREAT, AND
UPCOMING SERVICE PROJECTS DURING SPRING BREAK!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- March** **3** Eric Nelson (*aka YOB*)
 8 Bonnie Bastian, [Bob Brown]
 11 Jasmine Boris
 17 Vivianne Mejia



OTHER HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS IN MARCH ...

- 1 Peanut Butter Lovers' Day
- 2 Old Stuff Day
- 3 I Want You to Be Happy Day
- 4 Hug a GI Day
- 5 Multiple Personality Day ; World Day of Prayer
- 6 Dentist's Day [*give Ken Kolz a hug in church tomorrow!*]
- 7 Academy Awards ; National Be Heard Day
- 8 Be Nasty Day [*better yet, start a counter revolution — show people God's love!!*]
- 9 Panic Day ; Barbie Day ; Get Over It Day
- 10 Middle Name Pride Day ; International Day of Awesomeness
- 11 Worship of Tools Day [*for A.S.P. & Work Trip fans!*]
- 12 Plant a Flower Day
- 13 Ear Muff Day (*Huh?! I can't hear you. I'm wearing ear muffs!*) ; Donald Duck Day
- 14 National Pi Day (*Because today is 3.14, the value of Pi*) ; Daylight Savings begins
- 15 Ides of March ; Incredible Kid Day ; Napping Day
- 16 Everything You Do Is Right Day
- 17 Saint Patrick's Day (*Read page 4 to find out why we wear green!*)
- 18 Absolutely Incredible Kid Day ; Forgive Mom and Dad Day
- 19 National Chocolate Caramel Day (*yum! I'm celebrating this holiday!!*)
- 20 International Earth Day ; Extraterrestrial Abductions Day ; National Quilting Day ;
Snowman Burning Day (*I'm not kidding on this one!*) ; Corndog Day
- 21 Memory Day [*Now WHAT were we supposed to celebrate today???*]
- 22 National Goof Off Day
- 23 National Chip and Dip Day [*how about some of Mark H.'s guacamole & chips??*]
- 24 National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day [*Raisinettes, anyone??*]
- 25 Waffle Day ; Letting Go of Stuff Day
- 26 Make Up Your Own Holiday Day
- 27 Quirky Country Music Song Titles Day [*one for our country girl, Ashley Stites ...*]
- 28 Palm Sunday ; Something on a Stick Day
- 29 Passover begins
- 30 I Am In Control Day [*HAHAHAHAHA ... riiiiight*] ; Pencil Day
- 31 Bunsen Burner Day [*for science fans everywhere!!*]

MARCH 2010 ... AT A GLANCE

- Thursday, Mar. 4 **Youth Bell Choir**, 7:30 pm in the Chapel
- Friday, Mar. 5 **Confirmation Info Meeting for Parents & Youth** - Chapel, 7- 8:30 pm
- Sunday, Mar. 7 **Worship**, 9 am
Sunday School, 10:30 am - Mid. Sch. Rm. 12 ; Sr. High Rm. 8/9
Middle School Spring Service Planning, 11:45 am in Rm. 12
Youth Praise Band, 3:30-5 pm in SA
Youth Choir, 5 - 6 pm in SA
UMYF (*aka Youth Group*), 6 - 7:30 pm in Witman Hall & youth rooms
Dinner for \$2.50 @ 6 pm
- Tuesday, Mar. 9 **Adult Workers With Youth**, 7 pm in Room 12
- Thursday, Mar. 11 **Youth Bell Choir**, 7:30 pm in the Chapel
- Friday, Mar. 12 **SR. HIGH SEXUALITY SEMINAR**, 5 pm - 10 pm
- Saturday, Mar. 13 **SR. HIGH SEXUALITY SEMINAR**, 9 am - 5:30 pm
- Sunday, Mar. 14 **Worship**, 9 am
Sunday School, 10:30 am
SR. HIGH SEXUALITY SEMINAR, 10:30 am - 4:30 pm
NO PRACTICES for YPB or CHOIR - **NO SR. HIGH UMYF tonight**
Middle School UMYF meets as usual, 6 - 7:30 pm
- Friday, Mar. 19 **Confirmation starts** - Chapel, 7 - 8:30 pm
- Saturday, Mar. 20 **YOUTH CAR WASH**, 9 am 'til NOON
- Sunday, Mar. 21 **Worship**, 9 am - Youth Praise Band plays (*Call time 7:30 am in SA*)
Sunday School, 10:30 am - Mid. Sch. Rm. 12 ; Sr. High Rm. 8/9
Youth Planning Council, 11:45 am in Rm. 8/9
NO PRAISE BAND PRACTICE
Youth Choir, 5 - 6 pm in SA
UMYF (*aka Youth Group*), 6 - 7:30 pm in Witman Hall & youth rooms
Dinner for \$2.50 @ 6 pm
- Thursday, Mar. 25 **Youth Bell Choir**, 7:30 pm in the Chapel
- Friday, Mar. 26 **Confirmation** - Chapel, 7 - 8:30 pm
- Sunday, Mar. 28 **PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS - RECYCLE SUNDAY**
Worship - Choral Message, 9 - 10:30 am
Youth Praise Band, 3:30-5 pm in SA
Youth Choir, 5 - 6 pm in SA
UMYF (*aka Youth Group*), 6 - 7:30 pm in Witman Hall & youth rooms
Dinner for \$2.50 @ 6 pm
- Monday, Mar. 29 **PASSOVER BEGINS**

