

San Dieguito United Methodist Church

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Encinitas, California 92024

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Mark Feldmeir

Martha Wingfield

MINISTERS

THE MISSION OF
SAN DIEGUITO UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH IS TO

MINISTER to the hopes and
hurts of a troubled world,

NURTURE people in a
community of grace, and

INVITE all persons to
new life in Jesus Christ.

Worship Services

9:00 & 10:45 am

Contemporary Service

"Revive"

1st Sunday of the month at 5 pm

— ★ —

Sunday School

Pre-K thru High School at 9:00

Pre-K thru 6th Grade at 10:45

Upcoming Activities

DECEMBER 1st

Tuesday | 6:30 pm | Lounge
United Methodist Men

DECEMBER 5th

Saturday | 6:00 pm | FH

F.A.N. Club

Christmas Dinner

DECEMBER 6th

Sunday | 8:00 am to 1:30 pm
(Calle Magdalena Cul-de-sac)

Red Cross Blood Drive

— AND —

10:00 am | Founders Hall

Nativity Scene Showcase

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

La Paloma

Volume IX DECEMBER 2009 Issue 12

Christmas is Coming!

The Advent season is here, and if you are like most people, your December calendar is pretty full. With all the exciting things going on during Advent, we hope that you will make room for as many SDUMC events as possible.

We have made it easy for you to keep track of all the holiday happenings. You will find information about every event on our new church website Christmas page, www.encinitaschurch.com/christmas. Here is a quick run down:

First, plan on attending the *All Church Advent Event* on Sunday afternoon, November 29th at 3:00. We will come together with family and friends, enjoy fellowship, song, an impromptu Christmas pageant and make a beautiful Advent wreath for you to enjoy the entire season.

The *Nativity Scenes* will be on display on Sunday, December 6th, and there are several Christmas gatherings—*Friends & Neighbors Club* on Saturday, December 5th, *Youth Christmas Caroling* on Sunday the 6th, the United Methodist Women's *Annual Christmas Tea* on Saturday, December 12th, and the *Youth Christmas Party* on Sunday the 13th.

You won't want to miss the *Christmas Vespers Concert* on Sunday evening, December 13th at 7:00. Our own Chancel Choir with chamber orchestra, organ, hand bells and soloists will fill your hearts with the spirit of Christmas.

As we enter the last week in Advent, on Monday, December 21st, we will offer a new worship service entitled *Blue Christmas*, which is a service of hope designed to help those who may find the Christmas season difficult.

Luminaries will light the way as we celebrate Christmas Eve with two services of *Lessons and Carols*. The Family Candlelight Service, at 5:00 pm with music by the Children's Choir and a special Children's Moment, followed by the Traditional Candlelight Service at 7:30 pm with music by the Chancel Choir and Alumni Bell Choir.

There is something for everyone.
Have a Merry Christmas!



Christmas Dates of Note

Monday—**December 21st** | 7:00 pm | Sanctuary
Blue Christmas Service (followed by a reception in the Lounge)

Thursday—**December 24th** | OFFICE CLOSURES AT NOON
5:00 pm | FAMILY Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
7:30 pm | TRADITIONAL Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Friday—**December 25th** | OFFICE CLOSED | *Merry Christmas!*

Thursday—**December 31st** | OFFICE CLOSURES AT NOON | *New Year's Eve*

Upcoming Activities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DECEMBER 6th (cont.)
2:00 pm | Meet in the Parking Lot
UMW Christmas Caroling

— ALSO —

5:00 pm | Sanctuary
“Revive” Worship Service

DECEMBER 10th & 31st
Thursday | 10:30 am | Lounge
Pinocle

DECEMBER 13th
7:00 pm | Sanctuary

Christmas “Vespers”
CHOIR CONCERT

DECEMBER 14th
Monday | 10:00 am | Room 6
SDUMC Knitters

— ALSO —

4:00 pm | Conference Room
Book Group

DECEMBER 18th
Friday | 7:00 pm | Rooms 9/10

Bridge Group

DECEMBER 29th
Tuesday | 2:00 pm | FH Kitchen
Bread of Life
DINNER PREPARATION

—ONGOING—

SMALL GROUPS meet at various times throughout the month.

IN ADDITION

SUNDAYS

10:45 am | Room 9/10

Adult Sunday School

MONDAY thru FRIDAY
9:45 am | Room 9/10 (usually)

SDUMC Tai Chi

TUESDAYS

9:30 am | Lounge

Mary Magdalene Circle
Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 pm

Jay & Wanda Williams' Home
Bible Study

THURSDAYS

7:00 pm

Mike & Ann King's Home
Centering Prayer

TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS
6:30 am | Room 6

& SATURDAYS

8:00 am | Lounge

AA

SDUMC LA PALOMA • DECEMBER 2009



Pensamientos...

Dear Friends,

The season of Advent is finally upon us, and it comes as such a gift. While the world around us is consumed by stress, shopping lists and traffic jams, Advent keeps us grounded in the story of how God has come to us in simple, quiet, surprising ways. During these four weeks, we re-enter the drama of Israel's desperate longing for a just king, of the world's lowly and impoverished being lifted up, of ordinary people rising to extraordinary measures on account of their faith, of the mighty and powerful stricken with fear, of startling dreams and unlikely endings. Every year I look forward to another season of Advent, which reminds me that, behind all the noble firs and fruit cakes and blinking lights, God is deeply engaged in the world in subversive, scandalous ways.

What we personally make of the season of Advent is largely up to us. We can spend these four weeks getting ready for Christmas, or we can find ways to participate in that subversive, scandalous story. I encourage you to find a balance this year so that, when it's over, you'll have more than simply a few gifts to return, or a looming credit card balance to pay down. Here are some very practical suggestions:

★ 1/ *Worship during Advent*: lay down your burdens and your lists and lift up a song to God who, in Advent, promises that peace will prevail, that love will conquer all things, that hope will endure, that faith will sustain us. Such promises are fiercely contested these days. Set aside time each Sunday to commit yourself to living them out in your daily living. Consider making an Advent Wreath for your home and light a candle each day, praying for the needs of the world, your family, your church.

★ 2/ *Spend Less & Give More*: truth be told, you will give gifts and receive gifts this Christmas, only to find that, months later, you will likely not be able to remember most of them (unless, of course, they were purchased on credit). Consider buying one less present this year. Instead, make something with your own two hands; gift one of your personal talents; gift your time. Write a letter or a poem or a song; bake some cookies; babysit; make some repairs; make a memory.

★ 3/ *Remember the Poor*: the most scandalous part of the Christmas story is that God chose the poor and the marginalized as the protagonists. Mary and Joseph, John the Baptist, Elizabeth and Zechariah, shepherds and barn animals —these are heroes of the Christmas story without whom the Good News would not be told. This Advent, remember the poor. Buy some Honey Bees through Heifer; sponsor a child; serve a hot meal at Bread of Life; assist at the Interfaith Shelter; visit the homebound or the hospitalized.

I look forward to sharing a Holy Advent with you, and I hope you will share with me some of your experiences as you seek to participate in the subversive, scandalous drama of Christmas.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Mark



Here at SDUMC
January 31st
to February 14th

A Community Effort to Serve People in Our Community

As you read this, the 2010 Interfaith Shelter rotation to help the homeless is being planned at our church. The shelter opens **January 31st** and continues to **February 14th**. Last year over 100 individuals volunteered time, service, food, goods and cash. To learn more, and sign up for a specific date, look for our table in Founders Hall throughout December and January.

We provide safe overnight shelter, meals, showers, and laundry facilities, while Community Resource Center case managers screen and

counsel individuals and families. Exec. Director, LAURIN PAUSE, reports that the network is currently operating at capacity. This is a wonderful way to “love your neighbor as yourself.” For more information or to choose your date to help, contact ►LYNNE CALKINS—760.632.8029 or lc1np@cox.net.

Yours in Christ,

Church & Society Committee and the ISN Coordinating Team



BREAD OF LIFE Rescue Mission in Oceanside is serving more families than ever this year. DAVE ROACH and his team have committed to serve another delicious dinner Tuesdays, **December 29th** and **January 19th**, 2010. Look for the white board to sign up, donate supplies, cash or grocery store gift cards.



Do you own a business or are part of a non-profit organization?

The Discovery Hills & Valley School is placing emotionally-challenged, non-violent Juniors and Seniors in jobs around North County to prepare them for the working world after graduation. For more information please contact

►CHUCK SCARBOROUGH—760.703.0203 or cscarbo46@aol.com.

THE WORSHIP COMMISSION

is looking for volunteers to help with various projects during the upcoming Christmas Season. To volunteer, please contact the Church Office at 760.753.6582.



Saturdays, **December 5th & 12th** (Time TBD)—*Set up Poinsettias*
Sunday, **December 20th** at 12 Noon—*Assemble Luminaries*
Thursday, **December 24th** at 4:00 pm—*Set up Luminaries*



CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

■ THURSDAY (noon) / FRIDAY

December 24th & 25th—**Merry Christmas!**

■ THURSDAY (noon) / FRIDAY

December 31st & January 1st—**Happy New Year!**

SDUMC LA PALOMA • DECEMBER 2009

MISSIONS COMMISSION

SDUMC 2009 Annual Christmas Letter

and 2009

Heifer International Campaign

It's time to send greetings to all your friends at SDUMC through our annual Christmas letter. Everyone is invited to visit the Missions table in Founders Hall to sign the letter and if you wish, make a donation to Heifer International. You may also purchase an animal or share of an animal to honor someone on your gift list. Last year SDUMC raised over \$8,000 to support Heifer's programs which affected the lives of over 1,000,000 families, as reported by Jo Luck—President & CEO of HI. Let us all join together and make another wonderful gift to relieve hunger around the world through Heifer International!



In Memoriam

Please pray for the family and friends of SDUMC member **Cecil Goddard**

who passed away in North Carolina on October 22nd.

UMYF

YOUTH NEWS

- **Sunday, December 6th**
Christmas Caroling
5:00 to 7:00 pm | Youth Room
- **Sunday, December 13th**
Christmas Party
at the Stewart's Home
"White Elephant" Gift Exchange
- **Sunday, December 20th**
U M Y F
6:15 to 8:15 pm | Youth Room
- **Sunday, December 27th**
No U M Y F
- **Thursday, December 31st**
NEW YEAR'S EVE
District Bowling
and Lock-In Overnighter
9:00 pm to 8:00 am



Rebecca Hensley
YOUTH DIRECTOR

Love, Support, and Silliness

Whenever you get a group of youth together, pack up a caravan and head out for a weekend there is always one guarantee—there is a lot of fun to be had. This year for our Fall Retreat we went to Camp Cedar Glen for a weekend of bonding, learning more about God's love and to retreat from whatever daily life looks like for each of us.

There were many highlights of the retreat. We were able to participate in initiative games, high ropes course, archery and climbing tower led by the amazing staff of Cedar Glen. Each activity in which we participated provided the opportunity for the group to show our love and support to each other.

For some, fears were conquered; for others, personal records were beat; and for all, a worthwhile experience was had.

As a group we learned how many times God has reminded us of his love and how many ways God has sent love into our lives. We reflected on loving others as God loves us and how important it is to remind those whom we love how much we love them.

In between the important lessons and powerful moments there was much time for Frisbee Golf, Apples to Apples, impromptu Yoga class, random fun health facts, moth fights, and an overall amazing opportunity to grow in deeper relationship with each other.

Love and Encouragement,
REBECCA

Schantz Organ & Music Series PRESENTS

Christmas Vespers

Chancel Choir

Orchestra & Bell Choir

WILLIAM HATCHER, *conductor*

JANELLE DE STEPHANO, *mezzo soprano soloist*

ANNE-MARIE DICCE, *soprano soloist*

JANICE STEWART, *organist*

KAREN ZERLAUT, *bell director*

featuring *Gloria* by Antonio Vivaldi
and Suites 3 & 4 of

Robert Shaw & Robert Russell Bennett's

The Many Moods of Christmas



Martha Wingfield
ASSOCIATE
MINISTER

Dear Friends,

Not everyone is feeling merry this time of year and there is no shame in telling the truth about that. The Advent and Christmas season can be a difficult time for people who are hurting. Many people find they have trouble feeling “in the spirit of the season” because of the recent death of a family member or friend, the end of a marriage, the loss of work or other trying challenges.

We want to acknowledge the sadness and pain present in our community at this time precisely because Christmas brings a message of hope that can penetrate the darkness. This year, we will offer a special “Blue Christmas” service on Monday, December 21 at 7 pm. This service is often referred to as “A Service of the Longest Night” because of its date being on or near the winter solstice—the longest night of the year. But the name is also fitting because—despite the trappings of gifts, special meals and Christmas carols—this season can be darker than usual for those who struggle with sadness, grief, depression and loss.

The service itself is informal. We will hear words of solace and hope from the scriptures, spend time in prayer and remembering. There will be a brief message and some carols that will lead us in reflecting on the deepest meaning of God coming to us, as we are, in the baby Jesus. The service will be followed by a time of fellowship in the Lounge.

We will have open doors this special night to all who come so please feel free to invite others to come with you, as your support, or if you know that they too could use some comfort and care this Christmas.

If you have any questions about the service,
please feel free to give me a call.

In Christ,

Rev. Martha

C A L L I N G A L L

Alumni Handbell Ringers

Christmas is almost upon us. Traditionally, we have come together and formed an Alumni Choir for Christmas Eve Service. Last year I was recovering from hip surgery, but this year I would like to gather you all in for a stellar performance of “Sing We Now of Christmas”. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible (cutoff date is 12/11) to see if we have enough. Please contact ► KAREN ZERLAUT at zerlaut@aol.com so we can make up a choir and arrange a rehearsal time. If you are a member of this church and have played in an advanced bell choir and would like to participate, let me know.



There will be just one Forum during the month of December, before we take our traditional break for Advent, Christmas and New Years. On **December 6th**, STEVE HAYES will tell us the history of our familiar Christmas holiday celebration, which borrows heavily from ancient traditions, but which itself dates back only to about 1830. You probably thought it was older than that!

Please join us again on Sunday, **January 10th** to kick off a new year of interesting, informative, provocative, and entertaining lectures, presentations, slide shows, videos, and highly interactive discussions.

As always, you are invited to contact JOHN ELDON to suggest topics and guest (or SDUMC member) speakers.

The Forum meets during first service in Founders Hall to discuss a wide variety of timely secular and religious topics from a Christian perspective.



SDUMC CARE Team

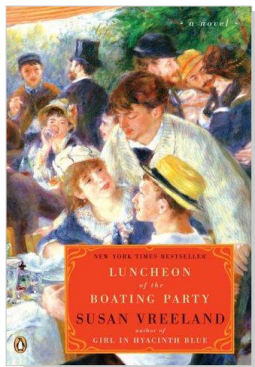
Congregational
Assistance
Resources and
Encouragement

The members of the CARE Team are available to call, visit, provide a hot meal a ride to church, or just to listen if you need assistance or support.

Contact LYNNE CALKINS
at 760.632.8029
or lc1np@cox.net
or call the church office:
760.753.6582

Book Group December 14th

*Luncheon of the
Boating Party*
by SUSAN VREELAND



is our book group selection for December. We meet at 4:00 pm in the office conference room.

Everyone is welcome!



IN DECEMBER

The Advent season is here! Sunday school classes will be building and playing with Nativity scenes and older grades will even have Advent wreaths to light. Hopefully everybody will learn a little something new about the most beloved story of the year.

The *Rock-a-Bye* theme for December is, *Jesus is Born*. The December unit of *Rock Solid* for the children will be, *Good News*. And the December unit of *Rock Solid* for the tweens is, *Message of Hope*.

See you in Sunday School!

SHANNON KARLICEK
Director—Children's Ministries
kids@encinitaschurch.com

CRC Service Opportunity | Saturday, December 5th

Please join us for a great family-friendly hands-on service opportunity to help with the *CRC Holiday Baskets 2009*. On Saturday, December 5th, meet at the church at 9:30am to help load up the backpacks and school supplies and to caravan to the Del Mar Fairgrounds Holiday Baskets warehouse. We are scheduled to volunteer from 10 am to 12 noon to do whatever they need. We might sort the school supplies and fill backpacks, or sort food, decorate the shopping areas or sort children's books. Fun and an appreciation for our blessings will be had by all. RSVP to ► SHANNON KARLICEK at kids@encinitaschurch.com.

Heartfelt Thanks

I would personally like to thank each one of the volunteers who assisted me with the sorting, cleaning, preparation and sale of the jewelry for the recent UMW Rummage Sale. Your dedication to this project is deeply appreciated.

Thelma Miller

Dear Church Friends and Prayer Chain,

Thank you so much for all your prayers for Ken during his recent heart crisis. He is very thankful for his miraculous recovery from such a serious condition. Special thanks to Phyllis and Andy Castiglione for bringing the beautiful altar flowers and to Ann Clarke for giving Marilyn a ride home from a rummage sale work day. All our love to such wonderful friends!

Ken & Marilyn Morris

Words are too puny things to express my enormous thanks and gratitude for all the support the Church has provided after Margo Tschaeche's death. The expressions of sympathy and offers of assistance are almost more than I can bear. I am certain that Margo shares my thanks to all of you who made the memorial service so perfect. It was just as she would have wanted it. This Church is truly Family.

And now we must go on, with beautiful memories of her in our hearts.

Al Tschaeche

san dieguito
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

THE HEARTBEAT NEWSLETTER
 VOLUME VI | ISSUE 12 | DECEMBER 2009



The United Methodist Women

CORDIALLY INVITE ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
 TO JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

Christmas Tea

Saturday, December 12th | 1:30 pm | Founders Hall

A lovely afternoon of delightful Christmas music and carol singing is planned as we enjoy delicious homemade delicacies to put us in the Christmas spirit. This lovely afternoon is not to be missed as we gather together for fun and fellowship and, more importantly, to collect gifts for those less fortunate.

Each year the UMW collects UNWRAPPED gifts for teens including:



- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sweaters | <input type="checkbox"/> toiletries | <input type="checkbox"/> handbags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shirts | <input type="checkbox"/> CDs | <input type="checkbox"/> games |
| <input type="checkbox"/> socks | <input type="checkbox"/> hand calculators | <input type="checkbox"/> sport watches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sweat suits | <input type="checkbox"/> stationery | <input type="checkbox"/> costume jewelry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> makeup kits | <input type="checkbox"/> backpacks | <input type="checkbox"/> books |

All of these gift items will be donated to the Community Resource Center to fill Holiday Baskets for needy families. In addition, we will collect small new or gently used items for children of the Calxico Neighborhood House to purchase as gifts for their parents or siblings. There is nothing that brings the warmth and true spirit of Christmas closer to the heart than giving to others. Please join us.

umw calendar

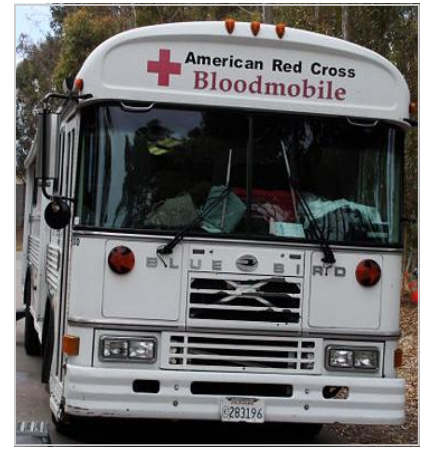
December 2nd: Executive Board—9:30 AM | CONF. ROOM
December 6th: Monthly Gathering—10:30 AM | FOUNDERS HALL
December 12th: Christmas Tea—1:30 PM | FOUNDERS HALL

upcoming events

April 30th to May 2nd, 2010: UMW Assembly—ST. LOUIS, MO



Membership is open to all women of the church who desire to belong.
 For information contact Mary Walman, UMW President, at 760.931.7980



Get Ready to Roll-Up Your Sleeves

and give the "gift of life" on
Sunday, December 6th
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
 in the Calle Magdalena cul-de-sac
 from 8:00 am to 1:30 pm

Ada Britz Fund

If you know someone 55+ living in Encinitas, who needs help with medical, dental, vision expenses, help is available through the *Ada Britz Trust Fund*.

For information, contact
 ► LYNNE CALKINS—760.632.8029
 or LC1NP@cox.net



Come on by and
REVIVE!
@ FIVE
 on Sunday
December 6th
 in the
 SDUMC
 Sanctuary

For those who joined us at the November 1st Revive service, we thank you for supporting our growing alternative worship service. If you haven't had a chance to worship at the Revive service or it has been awhile, please join us on Sunday, December 6th at 5 pm in the Sanctuary. Revive cards are available in the church office and narthex to give out to friends and family—please spread the word to those who might be interested.

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email | admin@encinitaschurch.com

Mark Feldmeir & Martha Wingfield | MINISTERS

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
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Encinitas, CA 92024
Permit 52



Christmas Luminary ORDER FORM

A candle is considered one candlepower of light. Some of the brightest lights today are thousands of candlepower strong. Help SDUMC become a powerful light in the North County by purchasing a luminary. They will light the way to the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve.



PURCHASED BY:

PLEASE PRINT OR WRITE CLEARLY

Circle **M** for "In Memory of..." **OR H** for "In Honor of..."

1/ _____ M H

2/ _____ M H

3/ _____ M H

of Luminaries _____ x \$10 each = TOTAL: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **SDUMC—LUMINARIES**

★ Interested in helping with this project—one or two hours? YES | NO—Phone # _____

Give the Gift of a Christmas Poinsettia

Please help us in providing the Poinsettias to decorate our Sanctuary. The cost will be \$12.00 per Poinsettia.

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
made payable to SDUMC. Note "Poinsettia" on the memo line.
Order deadline: **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13th.**

DONATED BY:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

CHECK ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

1. In Memory of _____

2. In Honor of _____

I will get my poinsettia after the 9:00 pm Christmas Eve service.

I will help take poinsettias to shut-ins.

Please deliver my poinsettia to a shut-in.

■ PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR CHECK TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.

■ FILL-OUT A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH POINSETTIA YOU WISH TO ORDER.