



Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

The United Methodist Church

The Good Word

Culver-Palms United Methodist Church

“Our mission is to joyfully share Christ’s love.”

January 2010

Volume 41, Issue 1

Ongoing Weekly Activities

Sunday

Contemporary Wshp	9:00 am
Sunday School	9:15 am
Choir Rehearsal	9:30 am
Traditional Worship	10.45 am
C-P Youth	5:00 pm
Sacred Song&Prayer	6:00 pm

Tuesday

Crafts Group	10:00 am
--------------	----------

Wednesday

Prayer Svc	9:15 am
Pastor’s Study	10:00 am
Adult Studies	7:00 pm

Thursday

UMM/W Breakfast	8:00 am
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm

Friday

KidStuff!	6:00 pm
(1 st & 3 rd Fridays)	

Saturday

UMM Breakfast	8:00 am
---------------	---------

Office Hours

Mon – Fri	9 am–3 pm
-----------	-----------

2010 District Leadership Conference – Saturday, February 6

The annual District Leadership Conference is an important event held each year, offering to current and potential church leaders an opportunity for training and fellowship with people from all over the Los Angeles District. The theme is “Re-imagining God’s Works: What is ... What can be!”

Seventeen workshops will be offered, including SPRC, Trustee, and Finance topics; Hispanic ministries; bible study and prayer ministries; praise with dance; worship design; and many others. Ben Idom, CPUMC Director of Youth Ministries, will lead a workshop on youth empowerment,

The Conference will be held at Wilshire UMC from 8:15 am to 1:00 pm. Fee is \$5.00 for Registrations postmarked by January 22, and \$15 after January 22. Registration forms are available in the church office.

“Share the Light” – Sundays of Epiphany

During Epiphany Sundays in January and February, sermon topics will focus on carrying the Light with us in the world. Details about the series are in Pastor Rich Bolin’s “Reflections” on page 2 of this newsletter.

Make Sunday worship a part of your weekend plans this month and throughout the year! Sermons in January:

January 3	“All the Cats in the World”
January 10	“Conversion”
January 17	“Let Freedom Ring”
January 24	“Being the Body of Christ”
January 31	“Groundhog Theology”

Human Relations Day – Sunday, January 17



Human Relations Day is one of the six church-wide Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church, encouraging social justice and work with at-risk youth and celebrating the connectional work of United Methodist Churches. It supports Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Service (UMVS), both of which are Global Ministries programs, and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program administered by the General Board of Church and Society.

Human Relations Day strengthens United Methodist outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico. The special offering is distributed to church-based community developers work in racial- and ethnic-minority communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, a multiracial network of grassroots social justice organizations, and Christ-centered youth offender rehabilitation projects that give teenagers a chance to succeed.

On January 17, please give generously to support this connectional outreach of the United Methodist church.

Rich's Reflections

During the Sundays of Epiphany at Culver-Palms we will be sharing the light. The proper language for referring to the Sundays between Epiphany and the beginning of Lent is "Sundays after Epiphany." But we are referring to Sundays of Epiphany because just as every Sunday is a "little" Easter, that is, Sundays of resurrection, so every Sunday should be an epiphany. It is a time when light dawns and when we are inspired to carry the light with us. During the Sundays of Epiphany we will use the metaphors of stars and lighthouses. The starlight guides us. The lighthouse is our ministry. The starlight is the epiphany we receive. The lighthouse is the light we share.

At the beginning of the year we renew our commitment to be people of the light - letting the light shine through. At our Watchnight service on New Year's Eve we used Wesley's Covenant Prayer. It is, I believe, the grandmother of all New Year's Resolutions. We will use it again on one of our "Sundays of Epiphany" during January. Ponder these words, and consider how they might be your own resolution to "let the light shine through."

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

**Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low by thee.**

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

**And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.**

And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen.

Pastor Rich Bolin

.....

Lynette's Letter

Happy New Year! It's resolutions time once again and we feel so optimistic about the year and its freshness. On behalf of the Mission Ministry Team I would like to thank you all for sharing your extra food and money with SAVES. We were fortunate to have the Director, Sadie Cerda, in worship where she expressed the importance of our special gifts. Thank you also for our United Methodist Women for sending an extra amount of money as a donation in my honor. I am honored, for your willingness to help those who are in need. We can continue contributing to SAVES during the year as well. Either bring your gifts to the office or contact Mary Beyer, who willingly donates her time to help SAVES -- thank you Mary.

If you continue to live with questions during your daily walk with God, you are welcome to join us for the "Living the Questions" Bible study, which meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in room 11.

The Social Justice Ministry Team meets on January 14 at 10am and the Mission Ministry Team meets on January 19 at 2pm.

May God's spirit lead you to God in whatever you do. Peace be with you all.

Pastor Lynette Fuka

Culver City/Palms/Mar Vista Time Bank to meet January 23

Time Bank is an economic strategy to build healthy and strong local communities through an exchange system that promotes partnership, encouraging and empowering individuals and groups of individuals to exchange skills and talents using TIME as an alternative currency. The Time Bank services exchange system promotes an equal and proportional return on time investment, while fostering the development of natural mutual support networks among individuals and organizations.

At 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 23 in Fellowship Hall, the local Culver City/Palms/Mar Vista Time Bank is having an orientation meeting for people interested in learning more about the Time Bank and talents and services that members have to offer. After orientation, there will be a potluck starting at 4:00 p.m.; bring a dish for eight people. RSVP to Melissa by Thursday, January 21 at ourtimebank@gmail.com or 310-936-1241.

United Methodist Women Local Officer Training – Saturday, January 23

The Los Angeles District UMW local unit officers training will be held at Westchester UMC on Saturday, January 23 from 9:00 am to noon. This is an opportunity to learn more about the UMW organization and get to know UMW members from across the district. Registration begins at 8:30 am. The fee is \$5.00; \$7.00 after January 16. Childcare is provided upon request, but must be requested no later than January 13. Contact Darlene McMurry for more information.

UMW January Calendar

- 02:** Executive Board, 9:30 a.m.
Devotions: Mary K Jones
- 05:** Crafts, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- 05:** Friendship Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Hostess: Carmen Garcia
- 05:** Patience Circle, 7:30 p.m.
Hostess:
- 12:** Faith Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Hostesses: Pat Thompson & Betty Cogley
- 19:** Crafts, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- 23:** **LA District Local Unit Leadership Training**
Santa Monica First UMC
- 26:** Crafts, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

About Our Prayer List ...



In union with Christ we pray for each other in times of illness and crisis, tragedy and loss as well as celebrations and joys. We publish our prayer list in our weekly bulletin and our 9:15 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Service. If you would like to include anyone in prayer, this is the perfect opportunity.

Please contact the church office to add or remove names or to receive a copy of the Prayer List.

Hey Church,

Have you noticed some of the great changes we have recently made? The lounge now has a new big screen TV. Several of our classrooms have new flat screen TVs and DVD players. The Sanctuary has a new projector. Soon we will be seeing additional changes in the Sanctuary. These improvements were made possible through a generous gift from Lou Mohr.



Such acts of giving are examples of the generosity of our members. These gifts, outside of our annual budget, allow our church to grow in so many important ways and we should all thank God for such acts of genuine munificence.

-- Dan Brown

KidStuff! Activities

Our Friday night family program, KidStuff!, provides opportunities for families of all ages and sizes to have quality worship and play time together. Children are encouraged to participate in all aspects of the worship service, learning to be leaders in church at an early age. All Friday KidStuff! events include a healthful family meal.

Worship nights: dinner in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m., crafts at 6:30 p.m., worship in the sanctuary 7:00-8:00 p.m. Game nights: dinner in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m., game time 6:30-8:00 p.m. Movie nights: dinner in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m., movie time 6:30-8:00 p.m. (popcorn and juice provided!).

Our next two events will be Worship Night on January 15 (“Let Freedom Ring!”) and Movie Night on February 5.

Youth Fellowship Activities

Our Culver-Palms Youth Fellowship will kick off Sunday evening meetings for the New Year on January 10, when Ben returns from Texas. All meetings are at 5:00 p.m. in room 10 (the Youth Room).

Parents, please join us for a planning session at our January 17 meeting.

Ben will be leading the “Youth Empowerment Workshop” at the Los Angeles District Leadership Conference at Wilshire UMC on February 6 (see page 1).

Transition Culver City Presents – Culver City: A Sense of Place

This presentation on sustainable landscaping, by Mayita Dinos, award-winning garden designer, explores how the intersection of geography, climate, ecology, history, and combine to give Culver City a unique “sense of place,” one that should be recognized and honored when planning the home landscape. Wednesday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Transition Culver City is a grassroots movement supported by our Social Justice Ministry. It is planning for a transition to a good, low-energy future.

General Fund Update

	December		Year to Date thru December	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income	\$ 30,518	\$ 24,428	\$ 154,460	\$ 138,729
Expense	\$ 28,885	\$ 32,637	\$ 161,016	\$ 162,993
	\$ 1,633	(\$ 8,209)	(\$ 6,556)	(\$ 24,264)

Culver-Palms UMC

4464 Sepulveda Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90230

Phone: 310 390-7717

Fax: 310 737-9356

E-Mail: office@hope4la.org

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Richard A. Bolin

Associate Pastor

Rev. Lynette Fuka

Dir of Youth Ministries

Ben Idom

Administrative Assistant

Fernanda Gray

Choir Director

Shannon Mack

Accompanist

Benjamin Jose

Praise Band Director

Dan Brown

Custodian

Juan Lopez

E-waste Roundup on Saturday, January 16

CPUMC will host an E-waste Roundup on Saturday, January 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Drive up and drop off unwanted electronic items -- computers and peripherals, televisions, VCRs, DVD and CD players, traditional and cell phones, PDAs, cables. No hazardous waste or bulky items are accepted. For more information, contact the Culver City Public Works Sanitation Customer Service Office, or visit the website, www.culvercity.com All items dropped off will be handled by California Recyclers in West Los Angeles.



Daily devotions from The Upper Room

“Disciplines 2010,” a year of daily devotions from The Upper Room, is available in the church office. Suggested scripture readings and meditations by an interdenominational group of clergy and laity are provided for guidance in daily devotional time and support ways to make time and space for God. Stop by the church office to pick up a copy. Cost is \$13.00.

Kittens need homes: mixed breed, various color combinations, 5-12 months old. Please call Mary K. Jones (310-390-2634) if you'd like to provide a loving home to one or two of these kittens.



PERIODICALS

The Good Word
USPS #019-536
Culver-Palms United Methodist Church
4464 Sepulveda Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90230