

November 2009



“THE WINDOW NEWSLETTER”

The Window Newsletter

TREAT AND TALENT SPAGHETTI DINNER SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Come join us for food, fun and fellowship. Doors open at 6:00 pm. Treat and Talent is our number one fundraiser and our goal this year is to raise \$5,500.00. The evening will start with a time for socializing and browsing of the various items to be auctioned. Then we will all

sit down to a superb dinner featuring spaghetti



with "spaghetti king" sauce made by Howard and Rob, salad, garlic bread and dessert. The evening

will conclude with the auction. The cost is \$10.00 for those of us over 12 years old and \$5.00 for children 4 through 12 years old. Children under 4 years are free. Let's work together to make this a successful fundraiser. See you there!

THANKSGIVING SING



There will be a wonderful Thanksgiving sing at

the Sacred Heart Church on November 18th at 7pm. This is being sponsored by the Eureka Interfaith Fellowship. Please bring some canned food to give to the Food Bank or cash offering to St. Vincent.

This is a wonderful opportunity to lift our voices in praise to God in thanksgiving for all of His blessings. It is also an opportunity to share with those who are having a hard time this year.



A monthly publication of Eureka First Congregational United Church of Christ

- 900 Hodgson Street Eureka, Ca 95503
- (707) 445-5488
- Carlotta Vallerga, Pastor
- Ted Adams, Editor

PASTOR'S VIEW

The month of October is gone but a warm and wonderful feeling continues as I reflect on all we accomplished. The 150th Celebration was everything that was hoped for; with the worship service being the absolute highlight. So much good planning took place, the banquet was delicious, the energy and enthusiasm was high, people came from near and far to celebrate with us and to share World Communion Sunday. We might say it was a mountain top experience!

Of course that was last month and now we are heading into November and preparing for the Treat and Talent fund raiser. This is the biggest fund raiser of our year and absolutely essential for the financial well-being of our congregation; be sure to sell tickets so we can pack the house. Pete is usually our biggest ticket seller but he is willing to pass that title on to someone else, so pick up the challenge and collect the prize. After the Treat & Talent event we will worship on Sunday morning in

the Social Hall where a morning latte and casual worship service should complete our weekend.

Mark your calendar and remember the Community Thanksgiving Sing on November 18th. It will be held at Sacred Heart Church on Myrtle Ave. beginning at 7 p.m. Our choir will be singing along with many other choirs. Bring a food item



for the Food Bank or put some money in the offering baskets to go to St. Vincent de Paul food programs.

November is also Stewardship month. On Nov. 22nd we will have our Thanksgiving harvest table and bring forth our estimated giving/pledges for the next year. Our treasurer and resource ministry members need those pledges to

enable them to compile a budget for 2010. You will receive information in the mail along with Stewardship Moments during worship. No matter how big or small your pledge is, it is your gift to this church and is always appreciated.

I hope you are enjoying the new format of this newsletter - sometimes we must let go of the old, especially when it involves working with computers. Thank you Libby and all those who have served as editor for this newsletter. Thank you Ted for taking on the job of editor and creating this new format. Blessings abound!

November is the month for giving thanks and I certainly give thanks for your love and faithfulness to God through this congregation. You are a unique group of Christians who give generously of your time, energy and resources as you strive to be faithful followers. Thank you for allowing me to be your pastor.

Blessings,
Pastor Carlotta

Blessed to be a Blessing

The rains finally came and with them a change in the rhythm of things --- a closet cleaned out, some things finally sorted, a feeling that it is time to do those things that have been waiting for the fall. We will soon have made our contributions to Treat and Talent, Vitality Task Force is meeting again after a brief hiatus, Church Council is preparing for the Annual Meeting in January, and Chancel Choir is preparing for the Thanksgiving Sing.

Yes, Thanksgiving, a time some of us await with joy, some of us with sad-

ness, and a holiday most of us will celebrate with loved ones. But this is also the beginning of the seasons which are more difficult for those who are far away from loved ones or are without shelter. Some of you



have invited those who are grieving or far from family to your home for the holidays. Others of you will be helping serve meals to those in need and all of us have the opportunity to give food or funds to the Food Bank basket in the narthex, and

there are special church offerings. Additionally, our church is an extreme weather shelter, and we are pleased to be able to do that for others. My prayer is this,

“Bless us, that we may be a blessing!”

Sharolyn



November 2009

Church Office Hours:

Carlotta: Tues, Wed, Thur.
2 pm till?

Home: Available at any
time if needs arise.

Christine: Tues & Thurs
3:30pm till ?

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Rev. Carlotta Vallerga, Pastor

**DEACON OF THE MONTH
TED ADAMS**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Coffee in Narthex Laity Training by Deacons	2	3 MAC Tai Chi 3:30-5:30	4 Lunch Bunch Noon	5	6	7 Treat and Talent
8 Coffee House Sunday Ministry Meeting Day	9	10 Tai Chi 3:30-5:30	11 Yarners Lois 1:30 pm ROW Study #5	12	13	14
15	16	17 Tai Chi 3:30-5:30 New Mem- bers Meeting in Narthex 7 pm	18 Lunch Bunch Noon Thanksgiving sing 7pm	19 Book Group 7 pm Pastor Car- lotta's	20	21 Church Improve- ment Day
22 Stewardship Sunday Service of Thanksgiving Offering of pledges for 2010	23 Council 6:30 pm	24 Tai Chi 3:30 -5:30	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29 Rev. Diana Preaches	30					



The Lord
has done
great things
for us,
and we are
filled with joy.
Psalm 126:3

November Lectionary

November 1

Ruth 1:1-8, Ps 146

Heb 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34

Wherever You Go

November 8

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Ps 127
or I Kings 17:8-16, Ps 146

Heb 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

Risk and Restoration

November 15

I Sam 1:4-20, I Sam 2:1-10
or Daniel 12:1-3, Ps 16,

Heb 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

Praise the Holy One

November 22

2 Sam 23:1-7, Ps 132:1-12,
(13-18) or Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, Ps 93, Rev

1:4b-8 John 18:33-37

A Wise Reign

November 29

Jer 33:14-16, Ps 25:1-10,
Ps 25:1-10,

I Thes 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

Sign of Things to Come

Birthdays & Anniversaries

11/3 Jennifer Schmidt

11/3 Phil Smith-Hanes

11/5 Doralee Smith

11/9 Mary'l Atterbury

11/15 Larry Pitts

11/18 John Tomascheski

11/21 Chris & Doralee
Smith

11/23 Jennifer Waller

11/28 Mike Jurkovich



FOOD BANK THANKSGIVING

As we gather for Thanksgiving in our homes or with others, let us remember to share the bounty we have with those who have less. When visiting the grocery stores for food and other

places for items to help us celebrate Thanksgiving, it would be good to take a few extra items for the Food Bank. There are many in our community who will not be able to supply food

for their families and loved ones. This can be done anytime and the basket as well as the cash contributions will be taken as often as needed. Thank you for all who contribute.

OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Stanley Smith-Hanes

We are fast approaching the end of the year. As your Outreach & Social Justice Ministry, we can only do so much ourselves. The rest is up to you. We have laid out our many opportunities for you to help in this ministry. Some of you have given us suggestions, of which we have either implemented or plan to after the first of next year. What is needed to be done will take more than just us 4 or 5. Our 150th brought new people into our doors. It is the responsibility of all of us to keep them coming and help get

them involved. Please think and pray about what you can do to reach those around us. Perseverance can pay

community that are looking for a spiritual home? Bring us your ideas.

Stan Smith-Hanes, chair



off. Just look at Matthew Shepard's mom and the late Sen. Ted Kennedy. We now have a fully inclusive hate crimes law. How can we reach those in our com-

Treasurer's Corner

By Reg Kennedy

This financial update covers the period January through September 2009.

Total in-	
come:	\$57,478.27
Total ex-	
penses:	\$63,858.58

Pledge update: The pledge amount received through September is \$37,300.00. This is 98% of our expected pledge for this period.
Tables and chairs fund update. The amount in this

special on-going fundraiser is now \$329.68.

The complete financial statement is available for your review in the Church Office during normal office hours.

Stewardship Sunday

Sunday, November 22 will be **Stewardship Sunday**. This year's theme is from John 1:16: "**From Jesus' fullness we have all received grace upon grace.**" During the worship service, on November 22 each of you will have an opportunity to make a financial pledge to our church for next year. In about two weeks you will receive a

pledge card in the mail. You are encouraged



to bring the card with you on Stewardship Sunday. Based on your pledges, a budget for 2010

is prepared. With sufficient funding, we can meet our fixed financial obligations, continue our various internal and community service programs. The proposed budget will be presented to you at the annual meeting in January. Over the next few weeks, pray and reflect on the grace you have received from Jesus as you consider your pledge for 2010.

Greetings from Buildings and Grounds

We had such a great work party weekend in September!! I'm still marveling at how much was accomplished. Last Saturday we had a small, but very hard working

group. We repaired pews, painted, weeded, cleaned, and fixed the shed roof.

Our next work day will be on Nov. 21st. We have much to do to get ready for winter, and for the holi-

days. We hope to see you there!

Doralee Smith, Buildings and Grounds chair

Into your hands, O God

Please keep the following people in prayer:

Family and Friends of Dave Snowden, Danielle Cochlear, Sabrina, Sudan Burger & Family, Janet & Glenn Griffith, Doug hanson,

Libby Yee's parents in Honolulu, Mary Huber Wallaker's parents, Enisha Clark, Pat Ritacco (Janet Foo's sister), Grace Cooper (Mary Bawden's aunt), Harry and Luella Garrett.



Serving in Worship for November:

Deacon of the
Month: Ted Adams

Sunday, November 1st (Communion Sunday)

Greeter: Michele Fell
Casale
Reader: Mary Bawden
Children's Sermon: The
Pitts Family
Acolyte: Emma Pinches
Ushers: Stan and Phil
Smith-Hanes, Libby
Yee, Howard Willson
Communion Servers:
Lois Willson, Rafael

Leon, Janet Foos, Judie
Norton

Sunday, November 8th (Coffee House Sun- day):

Greeter: Rafael Leon
Reader: Janet Griffith
Children's Sermon:
Roberta Duggan
Acolyte: Jordan
Schmidt
Ushers: Dexter Luther,
Tom Schmidt

Sunday, November 15th:

Greeter: Pete Vallerga
Reader: Judie Norton
Children's Ser-
mon: Kim Pinches
Acolyte: Jennifer
Schmidt
Ushers: Reg Kennedy,
Libby Yee

Sunday, November 22nd:

Greeter: Sharolyn
Hutton
Reader: Michele Fell-
Casale
Children's Sermon:

Meredith VandenBran-
den

Acolyte: Emma Pinches
Ushers: Judie Norton,
Lew Norton

Sunday, November 29th:

Greeter: Howard Will-
son
Reader: Fred Jewett, Jr.
Children's Ser-
mon: Ted Adams
Acolyte: Jordan
Schmidt
Ushers: Stan and Phil
Smith-Hanes

Please contact Michele
Fell-Casale at 442-7872
as soon as possible if
you
are unable to serve on
your scheduled day.

Treat and Talent "Dutch Auction"

There will be some great items in the "Dutch Auction" this year. Some of the things YOU could take home are:

A gift certificate for dinner at Abruzzi, Plaza Grill, or Moonstone Grill

Beautiful hand made items, such as, a doll, jewelry, a tote bag, a metal sculpture
And more!

Tickets will be \$1.00 each,

3 for \$5.00, or 15 for \$10.00

If you would like to donate an item for the auction, I will need to have it by Nov, 1st. I also welcome cash donations to help buy items for the auction. Many thanks to those who donated money last Sunday. This is going to be the best Dutch auction ever!

Doralee Smith

Book Group will meet on Nov. 19th at 7 pm at Pastor Carlotta's home. All are invited for a discussion of the book *The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse* by Louise Erdrich.



Newsletter

This newsletter can be sent via email instead of snail mail. If anyone would like to receive this newsletter via email just let the office know and it will be done. This newsletter can be sent

via email as well as print for those who like to receive both. It would be faster to receive via email and you can print at your leisure. It will also save some money if this newsletter is sent

email. So let the office know if you would like to change to email or want both. Thank you.

Thank You

Many thanks to Libby for her contribution as editor of this newsletter. It is a lot of hard work, but it was good to have her service in keeping this newsletter going. I look forward to continuing

to edit this newsletter and contributing time and effort to making this newsletter contribute to the ministry of our congregation. As we look to the future for the next 150 years, may the

Lord bless our efforts as we seek to be in the forefront of continuing to meet the spiritual and spiritual needs of the members of our church as well as those of our community. Ted Adams

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**FORWARDING SERVICE
REQUESTED**

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***Eureka First Congregational
United Church of Christ***

At First Congregational United Church of Christ we gather to worship God. We know ourselves as a Christian community through worship, learning, fellowship, and service. As part of the Body of Christ, we seek to express, receive, and share spiritual wholeness, strengthen our knowledge of God’s love for us and for all people, cherish individuality, and to be aware of and respond to the needs of all God’s people