

**MIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
15842 Armstrong Street.

Mail: Drawer A Middletown, CA 95461



**May God's grace,  
love & forgiveness  
& love open our  
hearts †**

**THANKS TO OUR  
CURRENT LEADERS**

- Diana Schneider, President UMW
  - Jo Ann Harmon & Lyn Kerr-Hanson—Food Program & Community Life
  - Marie Noe, UMW Thrift Shop
  - Laura Lamar, Graphics & Bulletins, Renaissance Pageant Script & Décor
  - Lucretia Mena, Custodian & Cleaning
  - Voris Brumfield, Music, Nominations, Newsletters, Photos & website content
  - Bernie Darms, Fellowship coordination & Sanctuary Illumination
  - The Committee Chairs manage our \$65,000 annual budget
  - Tom Darms, Church Council Chair
  - Linda Darms, Staff, Pastor Relations Committee (SPRC)
  - Peggy Kimple, Finance Chair
- THANKS TO ALL for agreeing to direct our work for God and our community.

**PASTOR VORIS  
BRUMFIELD**



**Changing a person's mind.** This past January I informed Staff Pastor Relations Committee that I would not serve as pastor past June 31. With that decision, I released myself to do the work of God and not feel "I" was responsible for everything at the church. Along with study, classes, and serving as a representative of Christ who is growing in faith I became renewed, changed my mind and asked to be re-appointed. This was approved in June by the Nevada California Cabinet (Bishop Warner Brown & the five Superintendents of the districts in our conference). Thus, on July 1, 2011, began my third year as non salaried Lay Pastor to Middletown Methodist. Leading two Bible Studies with sermon support from Proclaim & GBOD my fire for the Holy Spirit's reign in our community has been re-ignited. Hallelujah! May all be blessed with RENEWAL by the HOLY SPIRIT.

# "New Life" News MCUMC

A Message about and to the People of God in the greater Middletown area

August 2011



## Expressing the Spirit of God & Christ

Our Church offers God's love to the minds, souls, and hearts of our community and the world as we follow Christ Jesus.

In March 2011 a single 'Spirit Alive' Service was approved for 11 am. Attendance averages 25.

Guest speakers in July were the Browning Family, missionaries in Loma de Luz, Honduras.



**Rest in Peace (RIP) Neil Harmon & Dave Spur passed in June; former members Deb Peek & Jerry Magner passed in July & Aug.**

Bible Study took a break in July, returning in August at 9:30 Sundays, Old Testament study and 6:30 pm Thursday New Testament study.

Regular programs: Koffee with Kathy Parent Support Mondays at 10am was off for the summer and resumes in September. Emergency Food Distribution is made on the 4th Wednesdays 9:30—11 am. April—July we served 91 Adults & 54 children.

United Methodist Women

meet on the 2nd Friday at 12. With the opening of several new Thrift Shops in our community, special discount coupons are being tested to increase traffic as income has declined significantly.

The Community Life/ Transition Lake County 2nd Saturday Cinema continues at 3 pm. We also schedule monthly Christian films, all as expressions of "new life" through Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Rehearsals have begun for the eighteenth Renaissance Pageant which provides 15% of donated income.



Every 30 seconds a child in Africa dies from Malaria. Proceeds from the sale of reusable carry bags created by Shari Garrett at \$10 each and redeeming recycled bottles and cans has provided 225 mosquito nets since August 2009 to prevent malaria for children in Africa. Continue bringing cans & bottles to the Social Hall or donate direct. [www.nothingbutnets.net](http://www.nothingbutnets.net)

Open to change: A new church operational structure was ap-

proved August 7 at the suggestion of our District Superintendent Rev. Jerry Smith, "Meeting of the Whole." General Church business is transacted once per month to address operational issues where everyone present has a voice and a vote. The "Whole" has a chair, a secretary, with three persons designated as Staff Parish Relations representatives (SPRR) and four persons designated Trustees/ Finance. If there is a confidential matter for SPRR, the representatives handle it; likewise Trustees/Finance, care for those issues. Minutes are kept and the "whole" makes the decisions and decides who carries other business. As a test, our current committees will meet on the first Sunday during the monthly Community potluck. The Church Nominations Committee will seek volunteers for 2012 year for the designated positions to be voted on at the Church Conference for 2011.

The participation of all who feel called to New Life is welcomed. Building our spiritual family offering purpose to our life journey is our goal.



We welcome the return to our church family of Jeff and Nancy Bailey on August 7, 2011. They have had wonderful experiences of Christian growth in several communities since their membership transfer in 1996. Jeff has been ordained and led small groups as well as pasturing a church. With their return comes the course "Experience Life Fully, Find Peace, Joy and Spirituality in Today's World."



beginning September 12. Additionally a passion of Jeff's is engaging non churched young people, the focus of the course and renewing programs for children.

United Methodist churches are part of a world-wide connectional system. Middletown is in the Lake Circuit, part of the Great Northern District of the California Nevada Annual United Methodist Conference. Rev.



Jerry Smith is our District Superintendent. In July Lake County became one circuit

of Methodist Churches with Rev. Shannon Kimbell Augh of Lakeport Christian Parrish as leader. Pastors meet monthly with the 7 Lake County Methodist Churches agreeing to a Pulpit exchange on Oct. 16. Rev. Karl Parker of Lower Lake & Clearlake comes to Middletown and Pastor Voris going to Lakeport..



To add names to our prayer list or information about our church services and programs Email [middletownmethodist@yahoo.com](mailto:middletownmethodist@yahoo.com) www. [middletownmethodist.org](http://middletownmethodist.org) phone 707 295-7174 Bless you all.