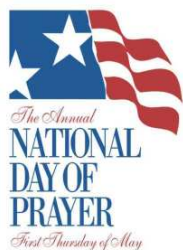


# The Cross and the Flame



Fountain Valley  
United Methodist Church

A Bible Teaching Church For All Ages



## National Day of Prayer

May 7, 2009

The National Day of Prayer will be celebrated at Fountain Valley United Methodist Church from 12-1 pm. Please join the pastors, church members, and city officials for this hour long service as we lift our prayers for the Nation to God. The United States continues to enjoy the benefits of our Christian heritage. Let's not take it

for granted, but instead observe this special day in our nation. Phyllis T has offered to take the lead on planning this event. If you can't make it to the church, by all means remember to pray at work, school, or home for our nation.



## Church Revival

First United Methodist Church of Huntington Beach

May 14, 15, 16

Pastor John will be the guest speaker at the revival services at FUMC of HB. Services start each night at 7pm. Pray that our neighboring church in Huntington Beach is effective at leading people to Christ, and bringing the Good News to new a world in need.

## Financial Note

Since the beginning of the year giving to our church has been run behind expenses in the amount of about \$7000 per month. We began the year with about \$84,000 in reserves, so if this trend continues we will exhaust our reserves at the end of the year. Jere V mentioned at our last Administrative Board meeting that God often uses money to get our attention. Would you consider what God may be trying to communicate to you, and to our church through this financial situation?



## Spring Election Day

Tuesday, May 19.

One of the unique ministries of our church is to serve not only as a polling location, but to do it with style and warmth. We serve coffee, doughnuts, fruit, appetizers, and desserts to people who stand in our polling line. Contact the church office if you would like to volunteer to welcome people and sit at the table. Also, if you would like to bring food or drinks, feel free to stop by any time. The polls are open from 7am to 8pm.

## PurposeWare

Have you ever called the church office for a phone number of another member? We're glad to help, but did you know that you could find this information from our website, and then log into our private church member database called purposeware? There's more than just phone numbers. You can also update your SHAPE, which is a profile of spiritual gifts and interests. Spend some time on this profile, as it will allow us to connect with each other and utilize the ways each of us is uniquely gifted and passionate.

## Coming Up...

May

- 7 National Day of Prayer
- 14-16 Revival at FUMC of HB
- 16 Rust and Moth Sale
- 19 Voting Day

June 17-20

Annual Conference

June 28

Kite Day

July 19-25

Jr High Alpine

August 3-7

Vacation Bible School

August 8 - 14

ASHRAM

August 9-15

Shaver Lake

August 30

All church BBQ

October 2-4

Mens Retreat, Camp Kare

November 22

Stewardship Dinner



## The Cross and the Flame United Methodist Church

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**Love God  
Love Neighbor  
Connect in  
Ministry  
Go to Those That  
Don't Know**

### Rust and Moth Sale



May 16th

Our community has come to anticipate this long tradition of a yard sale at our church where we give people the opportunity to “stop laying up treasures on earth where moth and rust destroy” (Matthew 6.19). Our storage bin is filling up with donated items, but there is still room for you to bring your unneeded furniture and clothes for our sale. The United Methodist Men’s group is heading the ministry this year, under the direction of Don G. The sale is from 7am until most things are sold. We are always in need of volunteers to set up, clean up, mark prices, and work as cashiers. Let Don know if you can help, or call the church office.

### Young Adult Women’s Retreat

May 1-3

Kathleen M and Ginger B are leading the retreat for the young adult women. We’ll spend time fellowship, games, teaching, Bible devotion, and prayer.



### Website

Make sure to visit our newly redesigned website at [www.fountainvalleyumc.org](http://www.fountainvalleyumc.org). At the website you’ll find announcements, newsletters, the master calendar with room usage, our membership database (purposeware), a store to buy personalized items, audio sermons from Pastor Dan, donation acceptance through paypal, link to the Flickr picture channel, links to our other ministries, and many other resources. It’s updated daily by Dan and Belinda! Also, FVUMC is a group on facebook. Over 100 church members are on facebook, so this is a great place to connect.

### Book Review

Myers, Bryant. *Walking with the Poor*. Maryknoll [NY]: Orbis Books, 1999.

Written by the vice president of World Vision, this book is an academic treatise for why and how to do international relief work. Myers has as his audience both the secular academic world, as well as the compassionate Christian. His thesis is unashamedly theological. Myers believes that not only should relief workers be allowed to share their faith, but that the Christian faith provides the only possible foundation for relief work to have a lasting impact. This is because beyond the immediate relief of today’s food, the lasting change in a culture will be due to changed values. Myers argues that the causes of poverty are largely theological, in that they are based on faulty values, beliefs, and actions. In order to transform a culture from poverty, the values and beliefs that exacerbate the poverty must be transformed as well. Myers also makes clear that relief workers should not have a two-tier system where the poor are conscripted to a perpetuating system of needing the help of the rich. Instead, the poor should be treated as co-laborers and mutual teachers/students in this cross-cultural work. Creating one tier will empower the poor rather than patronize them. I highly recommend the book as an answer to the questions, “Should relief workers change the beliefs of others?” or “Do conservatives care about poverty?”

—Dan Nehrbass