

# FAMILY OF FAITH

## Spirit

# VOICE



AN OUTREACH TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF FAMILY OF FAITH MCC

AUGUST 1996

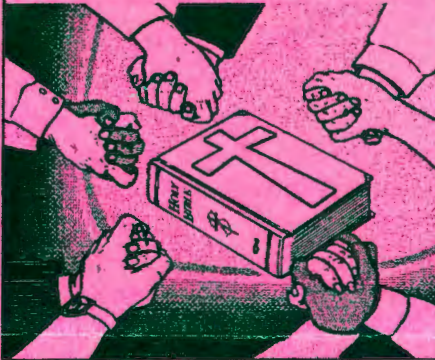
## PASTOR'S PEN

By Rev. Nancy Horvath M.Div.

June 12th through the 14th found me in Austin, Texas at a meeting of the South Central District's Board of Ordained Ministry. There were many highlights at that work session, but one thing really struck me. The day we were leaving, Rev. Martin and his spouse, Tom, were having a swimming pool dug in their yard. Standing at the glass windows we watched this huge backhoe dig up their yard to an incredible depth. From time to time their would be a huge rock that would be dealt with. We laughed because as soon as Tom would see the rocks he would immediately make landscaping plans for them! By the time we left for the airport, the once beautiful back yard looked like a disaster area! There was a huge gaping hole, dirt everywhere and orange spray paint all around the grass (marking the pool's perimeters). I learned, upon leaving, that it would take 45 days to put the pool in. What a mess to have to put up with for that length of time!

Later on the plane I was thinking about that swimming pool mess and reminded of the saying, "please be patient, God isn't finished with me yet". It occurred to me that when we place ourselves in God's hands, for God to use us, we become construction zones. Think of all of the things that have been "dug up" in your life since you dedicated yourself to Christ! And haven't there been occasional "rocks" that hampered the progress of the work? Some have been too heavy to move even with heavy machinery, amen? *(Continued on next page)*

## FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY



August 25th will be our second annual Friendship Sunday. Bring a friend to church on his or her special day and we're sure you'll both be blessed!

## WISH LIST

Greeting Cards to send out

Stamps to send the cards out with

An electric Pop Box

Christian oriented coloring books, etc. for the children's ministry

## UPCOMING & ONGOING EVENTS

### WEEKLY

Sundays  
9:15 Adult Ed. - 11:00 Worship Service  
Wednesdays  
6:30 Praise & Worship - 7:30 Choir

### MONTHLY

1st Sunday of Month Potluck  
1st Friday of Month  
SAFE HAVEN (ages 18-30)  
2nd Sunday of Month Board Meeting  
(open to all)  
10th of each month..newsletter due.  
3rd Wednesday of month  
newsletter mailing 5:30 pm

## AUGUST 1996

4th - POTLUCK following church  
5th - Caregiver's Team Mtg 7:00 pm  
12th - Fundraising Team Mtg 7:00 pm  
17th - Mop & Glow 10 am  
25th - Friendship Sunday -  
BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH!  
19th - Assimilation Team Mtg 7:00pm  
21st - Newsletter Mailing 5:30 pm

(Pastor's Pen continued)

And then there's the time thing. So many of us think that when God begins to move in us it should be an instantaneous transformation. We don't even want to think about feeling "torn up" for a length of time like 45 days.

And yet God is at work in us. Some of the work God wants to do with us is well marked! It's as obvious as if God had spray painted the borders around us! Some of us feel as though we've lost much of ourselves in the digging, just as that yard was being lost to a hole full of dirt. And yes, sometimes the progress is hampered when we find underlying issues that must be moved...just like those big rocks.

But you know, we need to be reminded that when we ask God to use us, we need to be ready for change. We need to be ready to be "under construction". And it does take time.

Since arriving back in Tulsa, I've thought often about that pool...and you know, it's gotten easier to picture the shimmering sun against the blue water; the coolness of it as one splashes around ...and the wonderful landscaping that will surround it, complete with those big rocks.

If your life feels like a construction zone these days, I suggest that you ask yourself, Did I pray for this? And remember, when life gives you "big rocks" that hamper the process, you might want to do as Tom did and turn them into landscape.

Wishing you God's BEST in the Summer months,

**Pastor Nancy**

**POT LUCK DINNER**  
1ST SUNDAY EACH MONTH

*Congratulations*

Kharna on being asked to speak at this year's UFMCC Leadership Conference on the subject on Young Adults!

## What Do Those Symbols Mean?



This article is the third in a series to discover what these commonly used symbols of pride mean to the gay/lesbian community. This explanation is excerpted from Joseph P. Goodwin, *More Man Than You'll Ever Be: Gay Folklore and Acculturation in Middle America*,

(Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1989), p. 26

### THE LAMBDA

"The lowercase Greek letter, lambda, carries several meanings. First of all, it represents scales, and thus balance. The Greeks considered balance to be the constant adjustment necessary to keep opposing forces from overcoming each other. The hook at the bottom of the right leg of the lambda represents the action required to reach and maintain balance. To the Spartans, the lambda meant unity. They felt that society should never infringe on anyone's individuality and freedom. The Romans adopted the letter to represent 'the light of knowledge shed into the darkness of ignorance.' Finally, in physics the symbol designates an energy exchange. Thus the lambda, with all its meanings, is an especially apt symbol for the gay liberation movement, which energetically seeks a balance in society and which strives through enlightenment to secure equal rights for homosexual people."



**CHOIR PRACTICE**

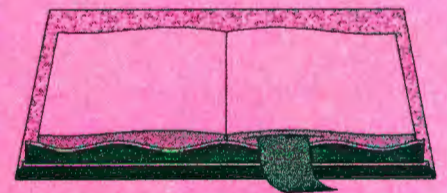
**7:30 Wednesdays**  
**We Need You!**



**LET YOUR  
LIGHT  
SHINE**

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, "Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?" Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us, it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our fears, our presence automatically liberates others."

—Nelson Mandela



**What the Bible Does  
(and doesn't)  
Say about Homosexuality**

This 9 week class will begin approximately July 21st at 9:15am on Sundays. The cost is \$15.00 which includes the study guide. Scholarships are available. Please call the church office for the exact starting date and to pre-register.

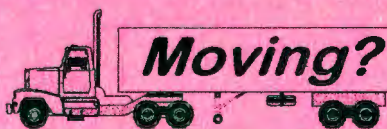
# AROUND the Fellowship



## NEW UFMCC HEADQUARTERS

The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and Metropolitan Community Church of Los Angeles have closed escrow on the \$3.8 million purchase of a modern complex of buildings on Santa Monica Blvd., in West Hollywood, California.

The property, which includes a 5-story office structure and an adjacent 2 story building (plus basement and parking areas), will be the new Global Headquarters of UFMCC and also the new home of the UFMCC's historic "mother" church, MCC Los Angeles, whose previous church was destroyed by the 1994 earthquake. In addition to the MCC Los Angeles meeting/office space and Sanctuary, future plans for the new facilities include UFMCC administrative offices, a sophisticated Computer Technology Center, Visitors Plaza, Galleries, and Archival areas, all designed to preserve the UFMCC and gay/lesbian community's history and to educate and inform visitors. The UFMCC Global Headquarters website at <http://www.ufmcc.com> provides pictures and information about UFMCC and MCC Los Angeles, and a brief overview of plans for the use of the property!



Please advise the church of your new address so you can continue to receive the newsletter. You can reach us at 622-1441.



# Thank You!

- To our Fundraising Team for a wonderful job on "That's Entertainment?"
- To Jody for leading a Wednesday night service
- All who assisted while the Pastor is on Spiritual Retreat

SAFE HAVEN, for young adults 18-30 will not meet in August, but will resume normal programming in September.

WORK IS  
LOVE  
MADE  
VISIBLE

## TREASURER'S REPORT



JUNE, 1996

BEGINNING BALANCE	2331.15
TOTAL INCOME	3695.10
TOTAL EXPENSES	4091.12
BALANCE	1935.13

### DESIGNATED FUND BALANCES

as of 06-11-96

BUILDING FUND	1870.00
CONFERENCE FUND	1322.53
MUSIC (CHOIR) FUND	1341.00
INTERNET	43.78
CHRISTIAN ED	450.00

### TITHES: BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

BUDGET	3956.04
ACTUAL	3695.10

# PRAYER LIST



## Requests:

- Diana Hall
- Joan as she seeks God's guidance
- Carol who has AIDS (& her friends and family)
- MCC of Greater Tulsa's pastoral search
- William who has AIDS
- Deb Hardy who has AIDS
- Rev. Eleanor Nealy as she arrives in the South Central District
- Datha as she seeks God's wisdom on her job situation
- Joe D. as he continues to suffer from headaches
- Todd, who seeks health, happiness, and a job
- Christie Hancock as she seeks God through her health challenges
- Rhonda's grandmother who has been diagnosed with dementia
- Rhonda & Dawn as they move to Arizona to get their school work completed
- David, for healing of his spirit
- Cheryl as she seeks God's guidance in her job search
- Rhonda and Dawn as they begin their new life together following their Holy Union
- Christie Hancock's cousin, Lisa, who is in congestive heart failure



## Praises:

- Deb Hardy is improving rapidly and will be joining
- Marsha and Suzanne again soon!
- Joey has a new job!
- Rev. Nealy will be in the South Central District on July 1st!

# Postcards from the Edge . . .

Dear Nancy & Congregation,  
It was great to meet you in Austin.  
Packing is coming along smoothly.  
Looking forward to beginning  
our ministry together in July.

The Rev. Eleanor G. Nealy

Family of Faith MCC,  
Got to Florida in about  
13 hours. Spent the  
evening on the beach!  
Very beautiful! Thank  
you for your love,  
support and prayers!

Arnie and Stephanie

The Fencing Crew:  
Nancy, Tresa, Arnie, Rick, Julie, Molly, Tina, Val,  
Shirley, Brent, Stephanie **THANK YOU VERY  
MUCH!** We appreciate the "work detail" completed at  
our house. Our church family has always been impor-  
tant to us, and they have shown, once again, their caring  
support when we were in need. We can never thank you  
enough for the support you've given us since the car  
accident.

Your s in Christ,

Dee & Terri

Dear Rev. Horvath and Family  
of Faith MCC,

Please accept our deepest appre-  
ciation for allowing us to trans-  
form your church into PROM  
1996. It was a wonderful suc-  
cess. There were about 30 prom  
goers who danced, laughed,  
talked and ate their way  
through the evening to the  
theme "The Rhythm of the  
Night." I can't tell you how  
much we  
appreciate your support of the  
TYDD program! Extra thank  
yous to Carole and her friend for  
helping us coordinate the key,  
etc.

Sincerely, Lisa Pottorf

Dear Pastor Nancy,  
Again I write to thank you for your  
help. The paper goods Joey brought  
were needed right then. What a  
blessing. And it's always special to see  
Joey. God really blesses us.

Sincerely,

Alice Wilder Bates - Our House

# AUGUST

## FAMILY OF FAITH MCC



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:15 - Christian Ed. 11:00am Worship Potluck Dinner following Worship	5 Care Team 7:00 pm	6	7 Praise & Prayer 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	8	9	10 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE
11 9:15 - Christian Ed. 11:00 am Worship Board Meeting 1:00 pm	12 Fundraising Team 7:00 pm	13	14 Newsletter Mailing 5:30 Praise & Prayer 6:30 pm Choir - 7:30 pm	15	16	17 10:00 am - Mop & Glow
18 9:15 - Christian Ed. 11:00 am Worship	19 Assimilation Team 7:00 pm	20	21 NEWSLETTER MAILING 5:30 Praise & Prayer 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	22	23	24
25 9:15 - Christian Ed. 11:00 am Worship FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY	26	27	28 Praise & Prayer 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	29	30	31

FAMILY OF FAITH MCC  
P.O. Box 382  
JENKS, OK 74037-0382

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 145  
JENKS, OK

Herland of OKC  
Pat Reeves  
2312 NW 39th Street  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73112

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED