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# THE COMPASS 2016-17

A GUIDE TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR...

WORSHIP • SMALL GROUPS • SERVICE • CHILDREN &  
YOUTH • PRESCHOOL

**SAN RAMON VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

902 DANVILLE BLVD ALAMO, CA 94507 925.837.5243

[WWW.SRVUMC.ORG](http://WWW.SRVUMC.ORG)



## Our Pastor's Perspective

*"MAKING DISCIPLES...TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD"*

*As far as mission statements go, this is a good one. It is short and succinct and yet states clearly why we are "in business" to begin with. We are called to make disciples (apprentices who learn what it means to follow Jesus in thought, word and action) who then take what they have learned and use it in a way that transforms (changes for good and for God) the world around us.*

*The information contained in this edition of "The Compass" is provided in the hope that it will assist you not only in your desire to grow as a follower of Jesus, but help to provide some specific ways in which you (we) can transform our communities, both local and global.*

*Disciples, of course, don't just happen. They aren't created by osmosis and they don't "grow on trees." Rather, they are most often created through the simple choice to gather in community with others for the purpose of learning, growing and becoming faithful servants of God and others. It is my hope and prayer that the small groups, classes, worship experiences, service opportunities, recreational events, and other activities listed on these pages will enable you to grow in your own understanding of faith and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, engaged in the important work of transforming our world.*

*Grace & peace,*



*Rev. Ron Dunn*

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...to deepen & enhance

**Worship** that is thoughtful  
and passionate

# Worship Opportunities

## Worship Services

We offer two Sunday services. Childcare is provided during both:

-Traditional worship is held at 9:00 A.M. in the sanctuary. This service includes traditional liturgy and hymns, and features the Chancel Choir.

-Non-Traditional worship is held at 10:45 A.M. in the sanctuary. This interactive service features eclectic music selections and our Living Water Singers & Band, as well as the Chancel Choir.

-**Children's Worship** - 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. begins in the Sanctuary.

9:00 - 10:00 A.M. Nursery through Pre-Kindergarten childcare with CPR-trained staff in Children's Building, downstairs.

10:45 - 11:45 A.M. Childcare for all ages in Children's Building, downstairs. See page 8 for more information.

-**Middle School and High School "The Edge" Worship:** Meets Sundays from 9:00-10:00 A.M. throughout the school year. During this time we worship God under the leadership of our Youth Praise Band, hear a relevant message from Pastor Luke and then break into small discussion groups to dive deeper into the Word.

-**CenterPoint**, a contemplative, meditation-based service, is held on Wednesdays during Lent and Advent at 6:30 - 7:00 P.M. in the sanctuary.

## Seasonal Services & Activities

### All Church Campfire

Fun for folks of all ages. Enjoy roasting hot dogs and s'mores over a fire while you hear stories and join in singing classic camp songs. This year we will feature both Cherub and Archangel Choirs. We invite you to bring camping chairs (if you wish) and a side dish to share.

### Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch

April 9, 2017

Everyone is invited to our Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch! It's fun for all ages! The egg hunt and activities will take place following the 10:30 A.M. service. Please bring a dish to share.

## **Christmas Family Craft Fair**

December 12, 2016

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. What better way to start off the beginning of Advent than joining with your church family to enjoy Christmas crafts, music, hot cider, and cookies!

## **Craft Fair Holiday Boutique**

9<sup>th</sup> Annual Craft Fair, November 5, 2016, 9:00 A.M.-3:00P.M., Wesley Center

Outreach opportunity, church fundraiser, and a chance to display the artistic talents of our church and local community members. If you have creative talents, we welcome your participation! Shop for all your Christmas gift needs and stay for a delicious homemade lunch. Contact: Shannon Dever, [sdever@srvumc.org](mailto:sdever@srvumc.org)

**Christmas Concert**, December 11, 2016, 4:00 P.M. featuring all our musical groups

**Drive-Thru Living Nativity**, December 17 & 18, 6:00-8:30 P.M., Join us in our Church Parking Lot which will be featuring a beautiful rendition of the Christmas story, complete with church members in authentic costumes and live animals.

**Christmas Eve Services**, December 24, 4:00, 5:30, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 P.M.

**Ash Wednesday Dinner (6:00-7:00 P.M.) & Service (7:00 P.M.)**, March 1, 2017

**Maundy Thursday Service**, April 13, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

**Good Friday Service**, April 14, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

**Easter Sunday**, April 16, 2017, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 A.M.

## **Children's Ministries**

Director of Children's Ministries, Stephanie Ham, 837-5243 x106, [sham@srvumc.org](mailto:sham@srvumc.org)

## **Sunday School & Worship**

9:00-10:00 A.M. - Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade begins in the Sanctuary for the Children's Moment, then disperses to age-appropriate classrooms in the Children's Building, upstairs.

We want kids to see how God's word fits into their lives, to learn how talk to God, and to build friendships that will last. We focus on three big ideas; I need to make the wise choice; I can trust God no matter what; I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



Pre-Kindergarten through Nursery/Childcare

We provide quality childcare from CPR trained staff for infants through children attending pre-kindergarten at 9:00 a.m. in the Children's Building, downstairs. During the service we use a curriculum called Buzz in our circle time to introduce simple prayers, songs, and Bible stories. We know that kids are in different places developmentally so we offer this circle time as an option.

At 10:30 A.M., we provide childcare for all ages in the Children's Building, downstairs

## **Youth Ministries**

### **Sunday Mornings**

#### **Middle School and High School "The Edge" Worship**

Meets Sundays from 9:00-10:00 A.M. throughout the school year. During this time we worship God under the leadership of our Youth Praise Band, hear a relevant message from Youth Director Tawfick Fayed and then break into small discussion groups to dive deeper into the Word.

#### **Confirmation Class (Grade 8)**

10:15am-11:45A.M., Wesley 204

An opportunity for 8th graders to learn about Methodism, affirm their belief in Christ, and join the Church. This class meets Sunday mornings and includes fieldtrips, a mentor program, and service opportunities.

#### ***High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)***

Snacks, team building activities, games and conversation are all part of our weekly High School Youth Group which meets in the Wesley Youth room from 4:00-5:30pm.

## **Wednesday Evenings**

#### **Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)**

6:00-8:00 P.M. - Come join other youth for a time of fun and fellowship each Wednesday evening. We start off every youth group with dinner together (\$5 donation suggested) followed by some games and activities. After our game time, Tawfick will lead a lesson and then High School and Middle School will be separated for a time of discussion and questions.

## Thursday Evenings

### Thursday Night Dinner Out (High School)

Meets the first and third Thursday of every month from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at various spots. This is a time to enjoy fellowship together while eating a tasty meal. We will be meeting in local restaurants, coffee houses, and in each other's homes. Contact Tawfick for this week's meeting place!

## Intentional Faith Development Task Force

Bill Rust, Leader: [wrusjrarb@aol.com](mailto:wrusjrarb@aol.com)

The Intentional Faith Development Task Force focuses on growing our faith experience as individuals and as a congregation, and seeing and shaping our actions, on the church campus and in the community, of our faith.

This task force is an umbrella organization of other faith groups. At the same time, it is also a "laboratory" for task force participants and others who wish to join them in exploring what the experience of a faith-driven life feels like, and how to invite others to experience this for themselves.

The Intentional Faith Development Task Force hopes that every adult will participate in at least one program this year.

## Adult Education

The mission of the SRVUMC Adult Education Committee is to help the adult community of SRVUMC consider our faith in the context of the world we live in and to be able to articulate this faith.

Our two offerings for the fall are a reprise of the PBS video series "God in America: How Religious Liberty Shaped America" led by David Coombs at 9 AM and modified forms of the Disciple format offered at 9 & 10:30 a.m. during the year. In addition, the Adult Council intends to again provide popular series such as Great Decisions in 2017 and Advent and Lenten series classes. Check the church's Web site, [srvumc.org](http://srvumc.org) - Adult Ministries, for current adult Sunday morning topics throughout the year.

For more information please contact David Coombs, chair of the Adult Education Committee, [dfcassoc@comcast.net](mailto:dfcassoc@comcast.net)

## Small Group Faith Development/Bible Studies

### Disciple Bible Study Groups

Drop-in Disciple (no reading required):

Sundays, 10:30 a.m., Bill Rust, Leader. Follows Disciple I format

Sundays, 9:00 a.m., Dave Coombs, Leader. Begins at the conclusion of the "God in America Series" and follows Disciple II format.

LiFT (Living in Faith Together)

Sunday evenings, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday mornings, 9:30 a.m.

[Leaders: Sandy Gsand, [sangsan@aol.com](mailto:sangsan@aol.com), and Debbie Kelly, [gsanddeb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gsanddeb@sbcglobal.net)]

Small Groups (see page 15)

## Adult Retreats, Conferences & Trips

### Men's Retreats

2017 Retreat, Villa Maria del Mar in Santa Cruz, May 5, 6 & 7

Quail Run Ranch Retreat (Horace Crawford's ranch)

Wise Women's Retreat (Local retreat, usually in May, for women of all ages - TBA)

### Women's Retreat

[Contact: Linda Green; 925-837-9419, [lgreen@srvumc.org](mailto:lgreen@srvumc.org)]

Dates: February 3-5, 2017

Location: Villa Maria del Mar, Santa Cruz, CA

Retreat Leader: Rev. Faye Orton Snyder

Theme: Betty's Diner

## Music Ministry

### Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 11, 2016, 4:00 P.M.

Features all of our musical groups performing glorious Christmas music. It's a wonderful way to kick off the season.

## Adult Opportunities

### Chancel Choir

Rehearsals: Thursdays 7:30 - 9:00 P.M., Choir Room. This soprano, alto, tenor, and bass choir sings a variety of wonderful sacred choral literature each Sunday at the 9:00 and 10:45 worship services. They also sing on several holy days and at special services and concerts throughout the year. New members are always welcome.

Director: Bruce Koliha, 980-0645, [brucekoliha@gmail.com](mailto:brucekoliha@gmail.com)

### Living Water Ensemble

Rehearsals: Singers - Thursdays, 6:15 - 7:30 P.M., Choir Room.

Singers & Band - Sunday mornings at 9:00 - 10:30 a.m., Choir Room

Performs each Sunday at the 10:45 A.M. Non-Traditional service in the Sanctuary, beginning at 10:40 A.M. with gathering music.

Director: Greg Zema, 415-519-5600, [gregzema@gmail.com](mailto:gregzema@gmail.com)

### Carillon Choir (handbells)

Rehearsals: Watch for rehearsal calls in the Mini-Messenger and The Valley

Messenger. Performs periodically during Sunday worship and on special occasions.

Ability to read music is always a plus, but all of the pieces chosen keep in mind the varying degrees of musical experience in our group. New and interested ringers are always welcome. We are privileged to possess a 5-octave set of Schulmerich handbells and a 5-octave set of Malmark handchimes, all of which have been donated by various church members in the past.

Director: Winnie Stribling, 838-2601, [Winnie\\_stribling@msn.com](mailto:Winnie_stribling@msn.com)

Floy Blair, 935-4290, [floyblair@comcast.net](mailto:floyblair@comcast.net)

## Children's and Youth Choirs

Come sing with us! All children, Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade

### **Cherub Choir**

Pre-K, kindergarteners, & 1<sup>st</sup> graders (3 years, 9 months by September 1st),  
Wednesday afternoons, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. Sing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at the  
9:00 service. Begins September 11. Meets in the choir room in Wesley Center.  
Director: Beth McClelland, [iteachk@pacbell.net](mailto:iteachk@pacbell.net); 831-0810

### **Archangel Choir and Bells**

2nd - 5th grades (6th grade optional)

Wednesday afternoons, 3:30 - 4:15 P.M. Sing the 4th Sunday of every month at the  
10:45 A.M. service. Choir participation is free, and a great way for your children to  
show their appreciation for God. We love to have all levels of musical ability!  
Director: Beth McClelland, [iteachk@pacbell.net](mailto:iteachk@pacbell.net); 831-0810

### **Youth Choir & Band**

Rehearsals: Thursday afternoons, 4:30 - 5:30 P.M. Music Room

For youth in grades 6-12, this is a fun choir featuring contemporary music and the  
choir sings in parts with the band. The Youth Choir & Band participates in The Edge  
youth worship service (Rm. 206) every Sunday at 9:00 a.m., and the 4th Sunday of  
the month at the 10:45 worship service.

Director: Teri Hawk, [hermhawk@aol.com](mailto:hermhawk@aol.com), 704-560-6004



*Small Groups* enable deeper spiritual growth & commitment

# Small Groups

## Faith Development Groups

### Big Boys Club

[Leader: Bill Van Bezey, 925-838-4104, [vanboneye@comcast.net](mailto:vanboneye@comcast.net)]

### Chatty Cronos

[Leaders: Elaine Halliday, 925-944-5194; Pastor Luke, 925-837-5243]

### ChristCare Book Group

[Leader: Gloria Fenton, 925-828-6307, [gloriafromsanramon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gloriafromsanramon@sbcglobal.net)]

### Church-Wide Study: Lent & Advent

[Leader: Dave Coombs, 925-837-5915, [dfcassoc@comcast.net](mailto:dfcassoc@comcast.net)]

### Couples/Singles with Children (or Grandchildren)

[Leaders: Val Miller, 925-309-4835, [vemiller65@gmail.com](mailto:vemiller65@gmail.com)]

### Disciple Bible Study

[Leadership Team: Bill Rust, 925-820-9047, [wrusjrarb@aol.com](mailto:wrusjrarb@aol.com);  
Dave Coombs, [dfcassoc@comcast.net](mailto:dfcassoc@comcast.net),]

### Discovery Class

[Leaders: Pastor Ron, [rdunn@srvumc.org](mailto:rdunn@srvumc.org), Pastor Luke, [lham@srvumc.org](mailto:lham@srvumc.org),  
Kathleen Saghafi, [ksaghafi@srvumc.org](mailto:ksaghafi@srvumc.org);  
Office phone 925-837-5243]

### Faith in Action Group

[Leader: Joanne Van Bezey, 925-838-4104, [tealeyes50@comcast.net](mailto:tealeyes50@comcast.net);  
Judy Slinger, 303-931-9615, [judy@slinger.org](mailto:judy@slinger.org)]

### Friday Morning Men's Group

[Leader: Pastor Ron, 925-837-5243, [rdunn@srvumc.org](mailto:rdunn@srvumc.org)]

### Grief Sharing Group

[Leader: Dory Schramm, 925-838-3085, [kiddus@aol.com](mailto:kiddus@aol.com)]

### Learning in Faith Together (LIFT)

[Coordinators: Debbie Kelly, 415-385-8088, [gsanddeb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gsanddeb@sbcglobal.net);  
Sandy Gsand, 925-989-7880, [sangsan@aol.com](mailto:sangsan@aol.com)]

**Living Out Loud (LOL)**

[Leader: Katy Mannell, 925-984-3691, [katymannell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:katymannell@sbcglobal.net)]

**Men's Faith Sharing**

[Leader: Tom Byrom, 925-984-5811, [tombyrom@comcast.net](mailto:tombyrom@comcast.net)]

**Parents of Children with Special Needs (PCSN)**

[Leader: Karen Scalzi, 925-820-7495, [kscalzi@comcast.net](mailto:kscalzi@comcast.net)]

**Sacred Path Labyrinth Group**

[Leaders: Suzanne Shea, 925-954-1889, [suzanne.shea@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suzanne.shea@sbcglobal.net);  
Devon Drake, 925-837-5243, [ddrake57@comcast.net](mailto:ddrake57@comcast.net)]

**Women of the Night**

[Leaders: Linda Forsey, 925-759-0509, [calphimu@yahoo.com](mailto:calphimu@yahoo.com),  
Marilyn Milam, 925-837-3576, [m\\_k\\_milam@earthlink.net](mailto:m_k_milam@earthlink.net)]

**Young Adult Group/Pub Theology**

[Leader: Tawfick Fayed, 925-837-5243, [tfayed@srvumc.org](mailto:tfayed@srvumc.org)]

## Activity Groups

**Adventuresome Seniors**

[Leader: Nancy Benvenuto, 925-784-1955, [nancy@nancybenvenuto.com](mailto:nancy@nancybenvenuto.com)  
Programs: Mary Jane Brusher, 925-968-9102, [maryjanehodges@comcast.net](mailto:maryjanehodges@comcast.net)]

**Afternoon Book Group**

[Leader: Marilyn Scott, 925-935-6564, [mailbox@perebruin.com](mailto:mailbox@perebruin.com)]

**Dinner for Eight (or Seven)**

[Leaders: Barb McWilliams, 925-837-0971, [osi310@aol.com](mailto:osi310@aol.com);  
Winnie Stribling, 925-838-2601, [winnie\\_stribling@msn.com](mailto:winnie_stribling@msn.com)]

**Handicrafters**

[Leader: Martha Kitajima, 925-735-1862, [mkitajima@yahoo.com](mailto:mkitajima@yahoo.com)]

**Hiking (Annual summer backpack trip)**

[Leader: Larry Henderson, 925-820-1142, [write.lar@gmail.com](mailto:write.lar@gmail.com)]



**The Games We Play**

[Leader: Marilyn Milam, 925-837-3576, [m\\_k\\_milam@earthlink.net](mailto:m_k_milam@earthlink.net)]

**Karaoke**

[Leader: Sandy Greenwood, 925-935-1109, [SandyG4711@gmail.com](mailto:SandyG4711@gmail.com)]

**Lunch with Friends**

[Leader: Nancy Benvenuto, 925-784-1955, [nancy@nancybenvenuto.com](mailto:nancy@nancybenvenuto.com)]

**Men's Breakfast Group**

[Leaders: Dean McWilliams, 925-837-0971, [osi310@aol.com](mailto:osi310@aol.com);  
Lyn Arscott, 925-820-2095, [larscott@pacbell.net](mailto:larscott@pacbell.net)]

**Men's Softball**

[Leader: Brian Steffy, [briansteffy1@hotmail.com](mailto:briansteffy1@hotmail.com)]

**Nature's Adventurers (Hiking)**

[Leaders: Bill Van Bezey, 925-838-4104, [vanboneye@comcast.net](mailto:vanboneye@comcast.net);  
Bart Jacobi, 925-837-7998, [lebart@prodigy.net](mailto:lebart@prodigy.net)]

**Tai Chi**

[Leader: Jonathan Robinson, 925-209-1127, [jpratherr@earthlink.net](mailto:jpratherr@earthlink.net)]

**Wesley Writers**

[Leaders: Brad Stribling, 925-838-2601, [brad\\_stribling@msn.com](mailto:brad_stribling@msn.com);  
Terry Sherman, 925-735-0475, [dtsh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dtsh@sbcglobal.net)]



...to give witness to our faith through  
*Service* to others

# Service Opportunities

## Our Care Programs

We have two care processes. Each is based on Circles of Connection and Love. For those in need, congregation members will provide meals, transportation, visits, communications (cards, e-mails, phone calls). And for those with celebrations, congregation members are more than willing to celebrate with those experiencing events of baptisms, births, confirmations, marriages, among others. Each of the two care processes report to the church office, pastors, and the Kindness Korps Liaison; the Liaison individual directs the action to the proper care process.

**The Kindness Korps.** Since 2015, the Kindness Korps has been our main care process on the block. Approximately 80% of our congregation members, friends, and constituents are assisted by the Kindness Korps. Formal procedures are in place to identify persons who might request assistance. Based on confidentiality, specific individuals in the program management will contact the person in need or a member of their family in order to identify the type of assistance requested. There are four areas of assistance: transportation, meals, visitation, and communication. Each has a cadre of people (the Korps) wanting to provide that service. The Coordinator of the particular Korps selects a Korps member to furnish the assistance.

**The Neighborhood Network.** The Neighborhood Network (NN) was our original care process and has existed since 2005. About 20% of our congregation falls into this care process, and it continues for 8 neighborhoods (of the original 42 neighborhoods), that have Neighborhood Leaders who desired to continue in this care process. For the NN, the Leaders of each of the 8 neighborhoods commit to garner support from their neighborhood households to support a neighbor in need. A neighborhood consists of 10-15 households. The Kindness Korps will assist a Neighborhood Leader if the need is long-term or requires more than the normal support. When a Neighborhood Leader wishes to resign, that neighborhood will move into the Kindness Korps care process.

**Kindness Korps Managers are:**

- Liaison, Linda Green.
- Facilitators: Peggy Crawford, John Green & Joan Pierce

**Korps Coordinators:**

- Transportation, Jerry Ricker
- Meals, Roni Item
- Visitation, Jane Roath
- Communication, Carole Lynne Keller

## Service Groups

### ChristCare Visitors

[Leader: Suzanne Stephens, 925-820-8249, [suzzst@aol.com](mailto:suzzst@aol.com)]

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Peacemakers

[Leader: Joyce Kayser, 925-820-4507, [joycewkay@gmail.com](mailto:joycewkay@gmail.com)]

### Trinity Center & Food for Thought Program Team

[Leader: Dick Lam, 925-930-0707, [RichardCLam@aol.com](mailto:RichardCLam@aol.com)]

### Singing at Sunrise Assisted Living & Danville Post-Acute Rehab Center

[Leader: Suzanne Stephens, 925-820-8249, [suzzst@aol.com](mailto:suzzst@aol.com)]

### United Methodist Women

[Leader: Bonnie Roberts, 925-846-2035, [badbrindie@att.net](mailto:badbrindie@att.net)]

Rummage Sale: Carole Lynne Keller, 925-254-5949, [elk-clk@comcast.net](mailto:elk-clk@comcast.net)]

## Opportunities in Mission

### *Help Discovering Your God-given Gifts*

Having trouble - as Frederick Buechner says - finding where "your deep gladness and the world's hunger meet?" Kathleen Saghafi, our Director of Membership & Mission, is chartered with helping you identify or discover your God-given gifts and then working alongside you to locate a place where your unique gifts can be put into action. Contact: Kathleen Saghafi, 837-5243 x110, [ksaghafi@srvumc.org](mailto:ksaghafi@srvumc.org).

### Angel Tree

During the Christmas season, agencies in our community send us a "wish list" for their clients who are in need of our help and generosity during the holiday season. The gift suggestions are written on Angel Cards and hung on our Angel Trees in the church narthex. Volunteers are needed to support this project by working with the agencies to develop the gift list, produce the Angel Cards, and decorate the Angel Trees. After gifts are collected, volunteers are needed for delivering gifts. If you would like to head up this project, please contact Linda Green, Marla Schleicher, Beth McClelland or the church office. For those wanting to provide gifts to those in need, watch for Angel Tree announcements as the holiday season approaches.

Contacts: Linda Green, 837-9419, [lgreen@srvumc.org](mailto:lgreen@srvumc.org)

Marla Schleicher, 648-0517, [marla.k.sch@gmail.com](mailto:marla.k.sch@gmail.com)

Beth McClelland, 831-0810, [iteachk@pacbell.net](mailto:iteachk@pacbell.net)

### Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Family Services

Founded by Rev. Patrick E. Davis for the purpose of providing support for girls, ages 10 to 17. The Bay Area Alliance provides a program of quality educational and residential services for girls who are at risk for abuse and neglect. We also provide placement for both boys and girls in qualified foster family homes through our Foster Family Agency. The Bay Area Alliance supports children and youth who are either moving toward reunification with their families or emancipation toward independent living at age eighteen. Volunteers provide mentoring, support social and entertainment activities and provide educational or life skills sessions with residents.

Contacts: Rev. Patrick Davis, 925/325-4449, [baayfs@yahoo.com](mailto:baayfs@yahoo.com)

David SeChrist, 925/609-6990.

Website: <http://www.baayfs.org/>

## **Benevolent Giving Committee**

Meeting Dates: At call of chairperson

The Benevolent Giving Committee coordinates the monthly offerings from Sunday communion services and other special offerings such as Christmas and Easter. These offerings go to local, national and international charitable organizations and to UMCOR. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church. UMCOR is working in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States.

Contact: Ed Keller, [elk@ski.org](mailto:elk@ski.org); 925-254-5949

## **Contra Costa Interfaith Housing**

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH) provides a service-enriched housing program, supported by an interdenominational faith community, which enables families to volunteer to assist with various community activities.

## **Food Bank for Contra Costa and Solano**

The Food Bank for Contra Costa & Solano collects and distributes food to needy people in our county. Our Church has clearly labeled barrels in Wesley Center and the narthex of the sanctuary for the ongoing collection of non-perishable food. Please bring your contribution to the church and place them in the containers. Additionally, 3-4 times a year teams of 15-18 volunteers work in the Food Bank, sorting and packaging contributed foods. The monetary collection from the bagel table at our Sunday hospitality periods is sent to the Food Bank.

Contact: Lee Rust, 820-9047, [chijocol@aol.com](mailto:chijocol@aol.com)

## **Habitat for Humanity East Bay**

Habitat for Humanity International (HfH) is an ecumenical Christian housing organization that helps low-income families build decent affordable homes they can own. Both skilled and unskilled volunteers are welcome. SRVUMC entered a covenant relationship with Habitat for Humanity East Bay in 2001 to provide prayers, volunteers and financial contributions. Consider helping on site. Weekday volunteers are needed. Volunteers are accepted with or without construction skills, as skills are taught daily by site supervisors and crew leaders. For more information or to complete an online volunteer application form, visit their Website at <http://www.habitatseb.org/index>

## **Local Missions Committee**

Meeting Dates: At call of chairperson

The Local Missions Committee organizes and coordinates "hands on" mission work in the local area. Past projects have included upgrading a home in Antioch, upgrading the Trinity Center homeless shelter headquarters in Walnut Creek, and building

wheel chair ramps for those in need of them.

Contact: Paul Kuelz, 925-831-3128, [paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net)

### **Mission Council**

Meeting Dates: At call of chairperson

The Mission Council is responsible for the overall direction, coordination, and sponsorship of our mission program. The Mission Council defines our church vision for mission work and develops a plan to make our vision a reality. If you would like to participate in this council, or would like to talk about starting a mission program, please call Ron Dunn at the church office.

Contact: Paul Kuelz, 925-831-3128, [paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net)

### **National and International Missions**

Our church has organized many mission teams to Guatemala and Haiti, in addition to sending teams to help in the reconstruction of the US Gulf Coast from hurricane damage, particularly in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. These teams are organized by team leaders as the leaders become available. Church members are also encouraged to join teams lead by members of other Methodist churches. Information is posted on the church website [www.srvumc.org](http://www.srvumc.org) under Ministries. Our church works closely with the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) organization in the planning of mission trips.

### **Open Heart Kitchen**

1st Wednesday of the month

The Open Heart Kitchen in Livermore provides noontime meals to needy people.

Contact: Steve Elliott (Asbury UMC), 362-8697, [sae612@msn.com](mailto:sae612@msn.com)

Mission Sunday, September 11, 2016

All members and friends of SRVUMC are invited and encouraged to participate in at least one service project during our concentrated effort to make a difference in our world, our community and our life. Mid to late September is the regular timeframe. 2016 events include: Habitat Playhouse Build and Stop Hunger Now! food packing.

Contact: Paul Kuelz, 925-831-2138, [paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net)

### **The Souper Center**

3rd Thursday, 10:20A.M. - 1:30 P.M. Meet in church parking lot to carpool to the center together. The Souper Center provides a daily noontime meal to low income/homeless persons. On the 3rd Thursday of every month, volunteers from our church travel to the Souper Center to serve hot meals prepared by a chef.

Participate one time, or on an ongoing basis.

Contact: Lee Rust, 820-9047, [chijocol@aol.com](mailto:chijocol@aol.com)

### **Shelter Inc.**

There are many people in Contra Costa County who are in need of food and shelter each night. Shelter Inc. provides food, shelter, and case management services to adults with the custodial care of minor children, who find themselves without the resources to access housing for their families. SRVUMC volunteers to supply meals and miscellaneous supplies for the Martinez shelter during one week each spring. Volunteers are required to prepare and serve meals.

### **Trinity Center & Food for Thought Program**

Several teams of volunteers meet Friday mornings around 8:00am to prepare & deliver a meal for the homeless at Trinity Center in Walnut Creek (St. Paul's Episcopal Church) and discuss biblical topics.

Contact: Dick Lam, 925-930-0707, [RichardCLam@aol.com](mailto:RichardCLam@aol.com)

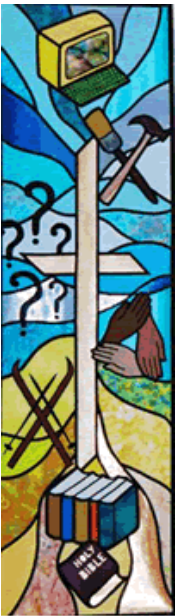
### **Winter Nights**

The Winter Nights program is a program organized by the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County to house needy families for a temporary period in church facilities. Each winter for a two week period, SRVUMC volunteers prepare daily meals for the clients staying on our campus, and also conduct evening activities ranging from toys and activities for small children, to tutoring those in school.

Website: [www.cccwinternights.org](http://www.cccwinternights.org)

Contact: Susan Dowling, [sue\\_dowling@comcast.net](mailto:sue_dowling@comcast.net); 925-648-5184





...growing & maintaining a thriving

# *Children's & Youth* program

# Children's and Youth Programs

## Children's Worship & Sunday School

Please see the **Worship** section for information on children's worship and Sunday school classes on page 7.

## Children's Activities

For more information on children's ministries, programs, and special events, contact Stephanie Ham, Director of Children and Family Ministries at 925-837-5243, x106 or at [sham@srvumc.org](mailto:sham@srvumc.org)

## Groups & Special Events

### Acolytes (2<sup>nd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> grades)

At our 9:00 A.M. service, Acolytes are responsible for bringing the Light of Christ into worship. Acolytes are open to 2<sup>nd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> grades. Acolyte training is held in both the fall and spring after the second service in the sanctuary. Please commit to scheduling first with Stephanie at [sham@srvumc.org](mailto:sham@srvumc.org)

### All Church Campfire

Fun for folks of all ages, Enjoy roasting hot dogs and s'mores over a fire while you hear stories and join in singing classic camp songs. This year we will feature both Cherub and Archangel Choirs. We invite you to bring camping chairs and a side dish to share.

### Children's Choirs, Chimes & Bells

Please see the Music section on page 13 for information.

### Children's Christmas Pageant

December 24, 2016 at 4 p.m., Christmas Eve family service.

We welcome children to take both speaking and non-speaking parts in our children's Christmas Pageant. No auditions are held but children are asked to sign up and attend practices. Sign up online at [www.srvumc.org](http://www.srvumc.org)

## Christmas Family Craft Fair

December 12, 2016

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. What better way to start off the beginning of Advent than joining with your church family to enjoy Christmas crafts, music, hot cider, and cookies!

## Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch

April 9, 2017

Everyone is invited to our Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch! It's fun for all ages! The Egg Hunt and activities will take place following the 10:45 A.M. service. Please bring a dish to share.

## Vacation Bible School (VBS)

July 10-13, 2017, from 9:00-12:00 for ages 3 & potty-trained through 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Join us for four amazing days of camp! Participants learn songs, play games, participate in an interactive daily Bible story, and so much more! Registration opens online on March 27 at [www.srvumc.org](http://www.srvumc.org)

## Volunteer Opportunities

Children's Sunday School Teachers and PALs

Serve as part of a rotating team helping with either of our Sunday School Programs at either 9:00 or 10:45 A.M. Teaching or Assisting (PAL) is easier than you think and so much fun! And a great way to help change the life of a child at SRVUMC! We have awesome, teacher friendly, curriculum and provide training.

## Youth Worship & Sunday School

See the **Worship** section for information on youth worship and Sunday school, pg. 7.

## Youth Events and Trips

For more information on youth ministries, programs, and special events, contact Luke Ham, Youth Pastor, at 837-5243, x108 or at [lham@srvumc.org](mailto:lham@srvumc.org)

## **College-Search Road Trip**

Spring Break 2017

This is a chance for high school sophomores and juniors to hit the open road with friends as they explore where they want to apply to college. We will be staying at churches and college campuses as we explore some the best universities the West Coast has to offer. We will construct our itinerary in the pre-trip meeting in order to make sure we visit colleges people are already interested in.

## **Disneyland Trip (Grades 6-12)**

Join us on President's Day weekend as we travel to the "Happiest Place on Earth!"

## **Freshman Kidnap**

Can't tell when or where... but it happens annually.

## **Houseboat Trip**

Get your sunscreen and swimsuit ready for when we hit the water on our annual houseboat trip! We spend the week at Lake Englebright in Smartville, CA waterskiing, wakeboarding, fishing and tubing. This is definitely the best way to beat the heat this summer!

## **Youth Fall Retreat**

This event is held at the beautiful Monte Toyon Conference and Retreat center in Aptos, CA near Santa Cruz. This is the kick-off event for our youth program and generally all youth try to get to this one. It's a blast.

## **Youth Summer Camps**

There are several camps that are offered through the CA-NV Conference of the United Methodist Church. The dates of these camps can be found on the conference website at [www.cnumc.org](http://www.cnumc.org). These camps are offered to elementary, middle school, and high school age youth.

## **Youth Choir (Grades 6-12)**

Please see music section on page 13

## Youth Mission Trips

Our youth group does mission work throughout the year locally, nationally, and internationally. Local examples are: 30-hour Famine, Tri-Valley food drive, Adopt a Troop, Compassion International, and supporting Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco. Mission trips include:

### **Gleanings for the Hungry Middle School in Mission at (Grades 6-12)**

For this trip we travel to Dinuba, CA which is located in the heart of the Central Valley and work on an operating peach plant. We do everything from setting out peaches to dry, to coring them and packaging them so they can be sent to needy people throughout the world.

A small number of junior counselors, those entering 10th through 13th grades, will be needed for these trips. The trips are a great way to prepare a middle school student for the high school mission experience.

### **Sierra Service Project (SSP) (Grades 9-12)**

The Sierra Service Project (SSP) is a non-profit organization providing life-changing experiences through acts of service repairing Native American homes or homes in low-income urban areas. High School youth and young adults are invited to experience the profound power of serving people who have a culture and life experience different from their own.



# Preschool

## United Methodist Preschool

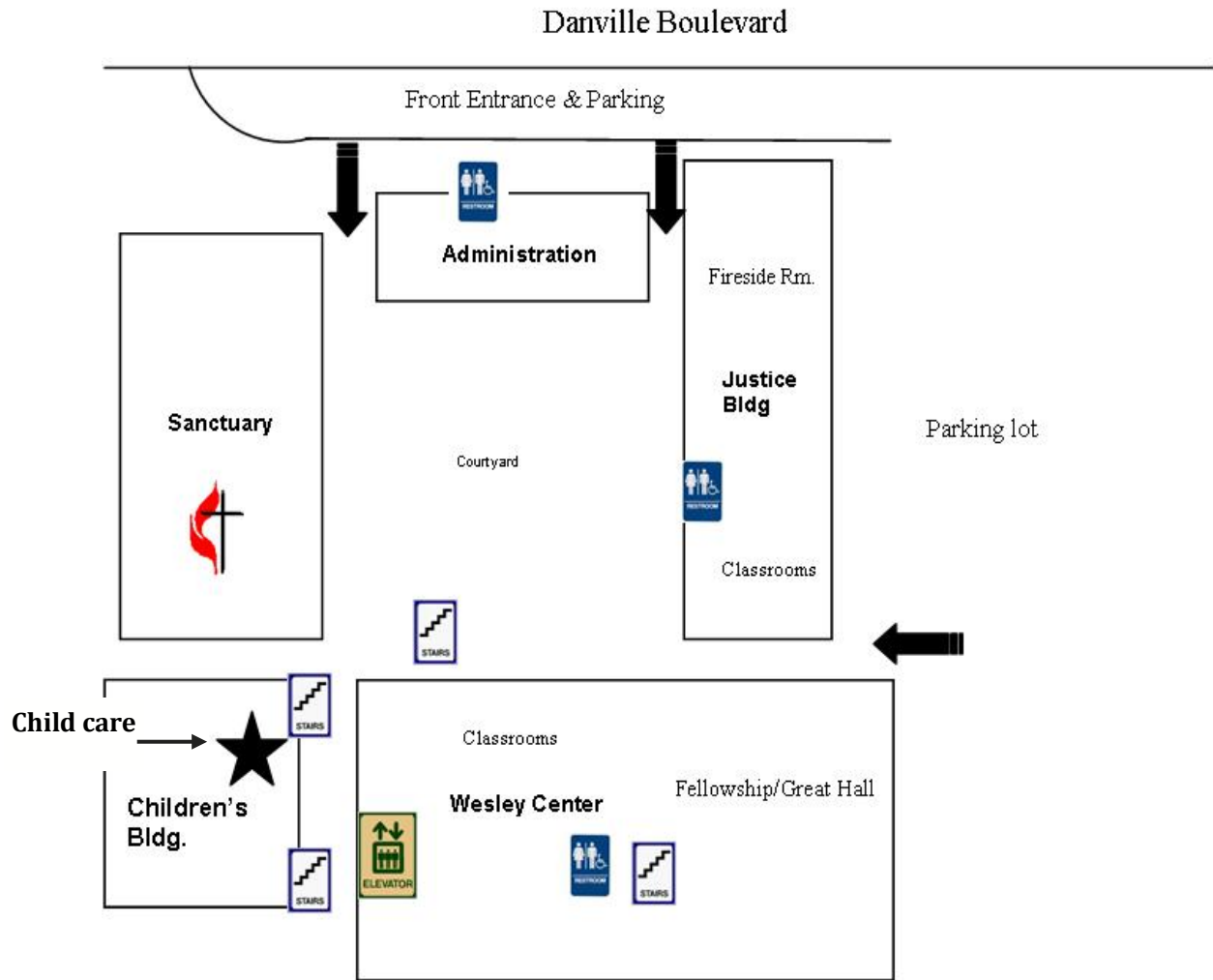
The United Methodist Preschool serves the preschool age children of our church and community.

Its mission is:

- To provide a child-centered, developmentally appropriate preschool program promoting the growth of each individual child, emotionally, socially, intellectually, physically, and spiritually, in a manner natural for him or her;
- To carefully plan a program that exposes children to materials and experiences that nourish their development in a warm and loving atmosphere;
- To advocate for children that, in childhood, learning occurs through play; and,
- To emphasize the development of the whole child and celebrate the spirit of childhood in a Christian environment.

For more information, contact Paulette Ove, Director, 837-2788, [pove@srvumc.org](mailto:pove@srvumc.org)

# Campus Map





# NOTES

# NOTES



San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church  
902 Danville Blvd, Alamo, CA 94507

Phone: 925-837-5243

Fax: 925-837-2763

Email: [info@srvumc.org](mailto:info@srvumc.org)

Website: [srvumc.org](http://srvumc.org)