



# the Valley Messenger

A publication of San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

MARCH 2015

*A Personal Point of View~*

## Building Relationships

One of my favorite theologians from the Eastern Church is John Zizioulas. For him, the great achievement of the early church is that it redefined the nature of Greek ontology. In the doctrine of the Trinity, relationality is our ontology. Ultimate reality (being) is being-in-relations (Trinity). Thus, at the heart of reality is a “communion,” the Latin root from which we derive the English words: communion and community. In Trinitarian communion, the personas of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit exist in perfect harmony, maintaining a balance between cohesion and differentiation. They are deeply connected without being enmeshed. They are different without being separate.

I believe that ministry is all about relationships. There are many different ministries, leadership styles and people, and yet all of them are not separated from each other. How we embrace the differences in unity, not uniformity, for the sake of God’s

ministry, is the key guiding factor to restore and maintain ministerial health. In this case, the mutual respect of each person’s role in ministry plays the main role.

I do believe that God has brought us together as a team for God’s mission/vision that connects us purposefully and systematically. In other words, the purpose of our being-in-relationship is God’s mission/vision. We are here to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by being faithful followers of Jesus Christ—changing our lives, our community, and our world. Through small groups, this purposeful relationship can be fostered more effectively than a larger group.

Small groups foster spiritual growth and commitment, bringing together persons who want to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ. During Lent, the Church offers several open small groups to experience the community, listed below:

- Sundays, 9am, Fireside Room, led by Phyllis Meyer
- Sundays, 10:30am, Wesley 205, led by Dave Coombs
- Sundays, 10:30 am, Fireside Room, led by Deborah & Jonathan Robinson
- Mondays, Noon, Fireside Room, Learning Over Lunch led by Phyllis Meyer
- Mondays, 7pm, Fireside Room, Women of the Night led by Linda Forsey & Marilyn Milam
- Tuesdays, 7pm, Wesley 205, led by Pastor Sunny
- Wednesdays, 10am, Rossmoor, Chatty Crones by Elaine Halliday & Pastor Sunny
- Wednesdays, 7:15pm, Fireside Room, led by Joanne Van Bezey
- Thursdays, Noon, Fireside Room, Learning Over Lunch led by Pastor Sunny
- Fridays, 6:30am, Fireside Room, Friday Men’s Group led by Pastor Ron

Please join the Lenten Journey 2015 in a small group setting by being a FROG (Fully Relying On God) Team for Christ! I do believe that God will do mighty things we’ve never thought of if we allow God to be God through our harmonious community. Ribbit!

*~ Pastor Sunny*

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***Next Issue: April 2, 2015***

*Have something you’d like included in next month’s Messenger? Please submit your articles to:  
[syarmolich@srvumc.org](mailto:syarmolich@srvumc.org) by March 20, 2015*

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## March Communion Offering Benefits One Great Hour of Sharing



*"Will you continue to meet the needs of the children, families and communities who've experienced devastation in the wake of disaster?"*

Our March Communion Offering supports the special UMC Sunday giving campaign known as One Great Hour of Sharing. The United Methodist Church has elected to fund the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) organization by donations made through the One Great Hour of Sharing campaign. From earthquakes to floods to hurricanes and other natural disasters, the UMCOR arm of the United Methodist Church is poised and prepared to respond and help get people in need back on their feet. UMCOR serves people in need around the world regardless of race, faith or gender. It is a non-proselytizing organization, that believes - as Jesus taught - that all people should be treated with dignity and are children of God.



sharing resources. changing lives.

Over the years, adult and youth members of our church and in our conference have served in mission at the UMCOR Depot located in Salt Lake City UT. At the UMCOR Depot, they sort and pack materials for personal care kits, and sew layette gowns for layette kits. These kits are then sent to disaster areas around the world. Our congregation has also put together personal care kits in response to a need for these kits.

When we meet the needs of those who suffer we actually minister to Jesus, who said:

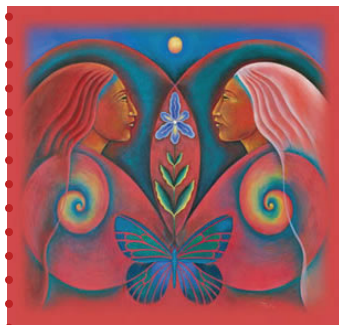
*"I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you welcomed me. I was naked, and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick, and you took care of me. I was in prison, and you visited me." (Matthew 25:35-36)"*

Thank you for your Communion giving on March 1 and your generous support of the One Great Hour of Sharing campaign and the UMCOR organization.

To learn more about UMCOR and read a story about how your One Great Hour of Sharing financial gift is making a difference to young Syrian refugees in Turkey, follow this link: <http://www.umcsgiving.org/impact-articles/remembering-the-children>

## Reflections on Growing Older

*Based on Chapter 4 of "Women Ageing: Changing Identities, Challenging Myths"*



Mirror of My Future, Reflection of My Past  
© Mara Friedman

**When:** Tuesday, May 12, from 9am to 3pm

**Where:** San Damiano Retreat (710 Highland Drive, Danville, CA 94526)

**Registration Fee:** \$50 per person including lunch. Scholarships are available. Please speak to Bonnie Roberts!

Please make a check payable to SRVUMC with memo "2015 Wise Women's Retreat."

*Registration is due on April 21!*

For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Pastor Sunny at [sahn@srvumc.org](mailto:sahn@srvumc.org). Register through the [srvumc.org](http://srvumc.org) web site, or at the Church office,

*Remember to bring a picture of a wise woman who influenced you!*



## MISSION & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*Start where you are  
Use what you have.  
Do what you can.  
~ Arthur Ashe*

### All-Faith Build Day at Habitat For Humanity

Habitat For Humanity has designated the third Saturday of every month to be an All-Faith Build Day. On Saturday, April 18, SRVUMC will join with other area faith community members to help build Habitat's latest 20 home development at the Muir Ridge Development in Martinez. Sign up on



the SRVUMC website at <http://srvumc.org/april-18-volunteer-for-habitats-all-faith-build-day/>

You are invited to carpool to the job site from the church parking lot. We'll depart from the church at 8am.

If you would like to learn more about this project, and get a behind-the scene look

at Habitat For Humanity, Habitat will be holding a "Hearts & Home" tour of the 20 home site on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 8 am. The tour is free and open to the public. You will not be asked for a financial contribution during the tour. Register for the tour visit: <http://www.habitatsv.org/Events/Hearts-Homes-Tour-Muir-Ridge-Development-325>

### Volunteer Opportunity at Glide Memorial Church

Our Missions Council has reserved spots for 20 volunteers to serve lunch at Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco on Sunday, May 17. The lunch shift runs from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. Minimum age is 12 years old to serve. This a great way for your small group, family or group of friends to give back. Reserve your spot today!



Glide's worship service begins at 9:00 am, if you're interested in attending worship before serving lunch. Glide is located at 330 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Please go to the SRVUMC website to signup.

<http://srvumc.org/may-17-volunteer-at-glide-memorial-in-sf/>

*Be A Part of the Team!*

### Guatemala UMVIM Team Forming

We are excited to be leading the medical mission team to Guatemala this year. In 2014 our team provided medical care to over 400 patients with a wide range of ailments from respiratory infections, parasitic infections, pain, diabetes, hypertension and cerebral palsy. We also provided educational classes about parasites, dental hygiene, and diabetes screening. In addition, we engaged the community with song, dance, soccer, smiles and laughter.

Would you like to be part of our team this year? We are recruiting medical and non-medical team members! We are in need of doctors and a pharmacist, so please help spread the word. There are a limited number of spots of the team, so please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested. We will be traveling from July 24-August 2, 2015.

To join the team, or if you need more information, please contact Mari Ward at [mariward@comcast.net](mailto:mariward@comcast.net) or Jan Pearson at [janpearson@earthlink.net](mailto:janpearson@earthlink.net)

### Please. Let's Do Lunch

*This may be the only meal of the day*

Can you imagine how hard it is for a child to learn on an empty stomach? Your giving has helped provide a hot lunch each day during the school year for the kids at the schools we support in Haiti, but funds are short this year. Can you help?



Your donation of:

- \$7 buys a month of lunches for one student
- \$40 covers six months of lunches for one student
- \$70 pays for a whole school year of lunches
- \$250 to \$400 affords lunches for a whole school for a Week

Mark your donations "Haiti Lunch program"

*Thank you so much for your help*



## Volunteer to Sort Medical Supplies at MedShare

Our Missions Committee is hosting two mission projects to MedShare in San Leandro, on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 and Saturday, August 15, 2015 both from 9am to 12pm. Volunteers will sort medical supplies which are then sent to medical teams around the world. Sign up for either one or both days through our web site at <http://srvumc.org/mission-project-two-opportunities-to-sort-medical-supplies-at-medshare/>.

Plan to arrive 5-10 minutes before our shifts begin so we can complete the sign in & orientation processes. Please wear comfortable clothes that they don't mind getting dirty. The warehouse where they will be working has no heating or air conditioning so we always recommend that volunteers dress in layers and take into consideration the outside temperature. Please make sure your group members know that closed-toe shoes are required. No sandals, flip flops or high heels please!

We encourage our volunteers to carpool but we do have a large, free parking lot in front and on the side of the building. Volunteers should come in the door marked "Volunteer Center," which is on the left side when facing the building.

We will provide hot and cold drinks and light snacks in our Volunteer Center. If you'd like to bring some snacks to share it's always welcome as it helps us stretch our funding to help more people. To learn more about MedShare, visit their website at [www.medshare.org](http://www.medshare.org).



Malaria claims **627,000** lives every year.  
**79%** of those lost are children.  
That means...  
**Every 60 seconds,**  
**a child dies of malaria.**

## Imagine No Malaria: A Mission for Lent

SRVUMC Mission and Service teams will focus on the national program titled *Imagine No Malaria* during Lent. In 2013, our California – Nevada Conference set a goal to raise \$2 million to help eradicate death by malaria on the African continent. As of January 14, 2015, we are only \$505,221 from meeting this goal.

During the Lenten season, we will offer awareness programs to educate our community about this preventable disease. Unlike many other diseases that are awaiting a cure, malaria was eliminated in the U.S. in the 1950s. However, in Sub-Saharan Africa, malaria continues to kill a person every 60 seconds. Imagine No Malaria is part of a global partnership and is the single largest mission ever undertaken by The United Methodist Church. Together, we can stop a needless killer, and our generation can beat malaria once and for all.

Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr. and the four District Superintendents are now challenging their districts to each raise \$100,000. If the Cal-Nev Conference goal of \$2 million is raised by June 1, Bishop Brown will subject himself to a pie in the face and dunk tank during the Annual Conference Session. If the Central Valley and El Camino Real Districts reach their goals, their Superintendents, the Revs. Debra Brady and Kristie L. Olah will also get pies in their faces. The Revs. Schuyler Rhodes and David Samelson have agreed to shave their heads if Bridges and Great Northern reach the \$100,000 mark. **SRVUMC has set a goal to raise \$10,000 during the Lenten season.**

Additional information will be on the church website and in the Mini Messenger throughout Lent. To see Debra Brady in Bishop Brown's message, view [www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Q1C5LYzkUc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Q1C5LYzkUc). For more information on this national program, please go to <http://imagineenomalaria.org/>

**Together, we are changing lives!**





# Haiti 2014

## What Your Gifts Accomplished This Year

*by Warren McGuffin*

Bon jou fanmi legliz mwen or Good day my church family. Your gifts made a huge difference this past year in Haiti. Not only was this a very active year in the Thomas Food Project but this was a stellar year for our efforts in Haiti.

This year with your gifts we were able to accomplish so much. Take a look.....

- Installed our 5th school with Thomas Project programs. Sponsored by Mt Ollivette UMC, Virginia
- Installed our 6th school with Thomas Project programs. Sponsored by Placerville UMC, California
- Installed a Street lights at 2 schools transforming the surrounding village overnight.
- Team members from Virginia, Texas, Arizona, Michigan, Colorado and Haiti worked at our project sites this year
- Started our 2nd school lunch program and now feeding 500+ children daily
- Trained 23 teachers to develop lesson plans based on computer curriculum
- Installed solar power, Water purification and 10 computers each in 2 new schools.
- Hosted a summer intern from Emory University for research of Measurements & Assessments of our project
- Designed and received a new solar cart prototype from In-country partner increasing available power
- Upgraded electronics Solar power units on 4 Solar carts
- Upgraded and updated existing computer curriculum on 38 classroom computers.
- Our Team doctor examined over 1000 kids as well as community members.
- Distributed over 1000 dresses and shorts lovingly made and given by Hands for Haiti
- Built and installed a slow sand filter for water purification
- We had a total of 6 Mission Teams involved in 2014 from 2 conferences
- We and other churches received and hosted James Lazarre our project manager in Haiti
- James and I were speakers on panels at and International Summit on applied technology in developing countries
- I share the Bishops Award received for this ministry with each of you.

The installations of the computer labs are now able to deliver 21st century educational tools for the poorest schools in our hemisphere. The water purification equipment installed builds a healthier environment. The solar street lights provides not only a safer place for students to study and evening social activity. Your gifts made this possible and they made a huge difference in the lives of the poorest among us.

We continue to have the need for school lunches. \$100 feeds a child for a school year.

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support in this Christian mission outreach of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church

*Peace, Warren McGuffin*



# Kindness Matters Corner

by John Green



is the story of our SRVUMC family. Each is a kindness given, a kindness received, or a kindness observed in our Tri-Valley area!

***Does our drought have more of an impact than we think? Could there be a connection between the diminishing water reservoirs and the drying up of Kindness stories?*** Will recent rains restart the flow of kindness stories? When turning on the faucets this morning, Hot water flowed, Cold water flowed, Kindness stories were dry! Kindnesses surround us, and yet examples of kindnesses given, received, and observed by our church family haven't made it to our church website nor this column. You may be "sitting" on a story (or many), but either time restrictions or questions may be keeping you from sending your story along. I offer my assistance. If you call or send me the basic story information, I would be happy to prepare it, send it back to you for approval, and then I would submit it to the website and this column. Please call or e-mail John Green, (925) 837-9419 and [bubalegs@comcast.net](mailto:bubalegs@comcast.net). Names will not be used in the story, just the example of kindness. You are encouraged to participate in sharing kindness stories as many church members have given positive comments regarding the Kindness Matters process and this monthly column. *On a personal note: I need this job!*

*You may directly share your stories of kindness to the website in this way: Send your story to [kindness@srvumc.org](mailto:kindness@srvumc.org). We won't use names, just the example of kindness for others. Your story will be posted to the church website within a few days. You can read these and other Kindness Matters stories on our website at <http://srvumc.org/category/kindness>*

Mr. Fred Rogers Said: "When I was a boy, and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

To this day, especially in times of "disaster," I remember my mother's words, and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers—so many caring people in this world."

**To all readers:** Where do you think we get all of these kindness stories? The Internet? Nope! YouTube, Newspapers, Magazines? Nope! Nope! And again, Nope! You are thinking way too

big. Every story is homegrown and

## SRVUMC

## Endowment Giving

The SRVUMC Endowment Giving Program has provided many church members a means of sustainable financial support of the following Endowment giving categories:

Capital Maintenance/Improvements, Maintenance Wesley Center, Missions, Music, Youth Ministry, Sunday School, Senior Activities, Library, and Unrestricted.

Since 1991, the Endowment Committee have been good stewards of your gifts. The value of "the fund" as of 12/31/2014 is slightly over \$1 million in value. During this period, Endowment has also distributed over \$260,000 back to the church in the above categories, as designated by donors. At the February 11, 2015 Endowment meeting, committee members voted to distribute for 2015 a total of \$50,00, allocated to the above categories, according to donor wishes. Endowment is truly the "gift that keeps on giving".

We are pleased to offer a program that enables church members and friends to donate a vehicle to the SRVUMC Endowment Fund. If you or anyone you know has a vehicle to donate, simply call Endowment Chairperson Dave McWilliams at 925-999-8093 or Fred Toney at 925-838-9182 to donate a vehicle and receive a possible 2015 tax deduction.

Your 2015 Endowment Committee members are Dave McWilliams-Chairperson, Quentin Alexander-Vice Chairperson, Judy Baker-Secretary, Kerry Davis-Treasurer, Ed Bader, Rudy Ceragioli, Steve Roath, Irv Skeoch, and Fred Toney. Please direct inquiries about Endowment giving to any of the above Endowment members.

# THANK ♥ YOU

*Al Robinson's family is so very grateful for your cards & hugs & prayers in memory of Al !!!*

*The incredible cookies, "etc." were so appreciated as well as the usher help, the memories spoken at the memorial —the CD's.*

*God's Blessings to each of you !!!  
Vera & family "*

# Get Involved

What's going on at the Church

## Special Workshop

### The Gift of Listening

*Sunday, March 22, 11:45am in Wesley Center*

The Gift of Listening will be taught on Sunday, March 22, at 11:45am in Wesley Center. So, don't be left out. Our keynote speaker is Shirley Stephenson who is a certified Spiritual Director, a trained Stephan Minister, finished the 2-Year Academy for Spiritual Formation offered by the Upper Room of the United Methodist Church, and offered numerous workshops on listening and praying. Lunch will be provided. Childcare will be provided upon request. Please contact Pastor Sunny if you have questions.

## Save The Date!

### Missionary from Macedonia Visits SRVUMC

*Sunday, April 19*

There are no regular scheduled meetings for the next couple of months. Instead, the United Methodist Women are working hard to put together the annual church-wide rummage sale on March 6 and 7. Please consider adding *your* special support!

Then, on Sunday, April 19, there will be another church-wide opportunity to hear from **Carol Partridge**, who has been our UM Missionary in Macedonia. Carol is from our CA-NV Annual Conference and SRV has been in partnership and support of her ministry. She is on Itineration, visiting her supporting congregations and is retiring after fifteen years of service. Carol will be introduced during the worship services with time for a Mission Moment and a luncheon and program following second hour. Details will be announced later, but **Save the Date** for this fellowship event.



### Lenten CenterPoint Schedule

*Join us every Wednesday until April 2 for a time to reflect, singing, prayer and silence. 6:30-7 pm in the Sanctuary*



## Important Information for Parents

### Teen Prescription Drug Abuse Presentation

*Wednesday, March 11, 7-8pm in Wesley Center*

Parent Info Night, Teen Prescription Drug AbuseThe SRVUMC Youth Ministry in conjunction with our partnership with the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse, is presenting an educational evening addressing the topic of teen prescription drug abuse. This is an evening that every youth, and parent of a teen – or soon to be teen – should attend! The evening features information presented via video and a panel discussion, lead by local leaders including parents, law enforcement, youth workers and family/teen counselors.



This important event takes place in Wesley Center on Wednesday, March 11, 7:00-8:30 PM.

#### Did You Know...

- Prescription drug abuse is at epidemic levels in communities throughout America and every family is potentially at risk for its impacts.
- One in five teens who has abused a prescription drug did so before the age of 14 and the consequences can be deadly.
- Prescription drug abuse is a reality in Alamo/Danville/San Ramon and has been linked to the deaths of multiple community members of all ages in the recent past.

#### You Will Learn About...

- Prescription drugs most abused by teens that can be addictive and deadly.
- Legal consequences of prescription drug abuse.
- Prevention strategies to help keep your child substance free.
- Common teen risk factors and how to recognize signs of substance abuse and overdose.
- Recommended action and resources if you suspect there's a problem.

For more information, contact Rev. Luke Ham at [LHam@srvumc.org](mailto:LHam@srvumc.org). Childcare provided upon request.



***DONATIONS ACCEPTED ONLY ON  
WEDNESDAY,  
March 4, 2015 between 9 am and 8 pm!!!***

Sale begins on Friday, March 6th, 9 am to 2 pm and continues Saturday, March 7th, 9 am to 12 noon.

We are happy to accept usable, salable items in good condition. Please test small appliances to make sure they are in good working order. When you are considering something to donate, ask the question, "Would I give this item to a friend or relative?" Donations must be clean, not soiled. Please – no missing pieces or parts, no rips, tears, or discoloration. Metal items will be accepted for Boyd Hasik and Brian Robert's ongoing recycling program.

We are unable to accept sofas/overstuffed furniture, office furniture, mattresses, box springs, water-beds, hide-a-beds, bed pillows, cribs, infant seats, curtains, Venetian blinds/shutters, all automotive products, all building materials, pianos, organs, bicycle parts, gas powered tools, food items, magazines, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, non-working electrical equipment, chemicals, oils, toxic materials, pesticides.

What's more important is that we need your physical help. This is a church-wide rummage sale that the UMW organizes. We can no longer do all the work that putting on a rummage sale requires without many helping hands from church members. That means helping Wednesday, Friday or Saturday for whatever time you can spare. One half of all the moneys earned goes directly to SRVUMC for youth programs and missions.

#### *A recap of how the rummage sale works:*

On Wednesday, the workers accept the rummage from people as they drop their items off. Men are especially needed to take the rummage from people at their cars if possible and move the items in to the hall. Others are needed to sort the rummage and put it on the designated tables.

We break for lunch and workers usually bring food to share like a potluck. For the evening meal, Peg Jackson prepares food for the workers staying.

Thursday is pricing day. If you have a "gift" for pricing items, we need you that day. We start at 9:00 and stop when we are done.

Friday and Saturday until noon are our sale days. People are needed to ring up the sales, help shoppers find items, refolding of clothes, etc.

Our youth will be there Saturday at noon to help pack up the unsold rummage which will be donated to another organization.

If you have questions, please call Bonnie Roberts at (925) 846-2035.

*Palm Sunday is March 29*

## **Palm Fronds Needed**

*Do you have a palm tree in your yard? Are you a palm tree gardener? If so, we need your help.*

*We need 75 palm branches for  
Palm Sunday on March 29th.*

*Please contact the Church office,  
Joanne VanBezey or Priscilla Wolf from ASAP if  
you can help. Thank you!*

## **Grab a bag of Reading Glasses** *And distribute them to the "functional" needy.*

People over forty often need magnifiers to see clearly up close, but sometimes can't afford them. Refugees, inmates, seniors, students, home care workers, emergency rooms, libraries, immigrants, Churches, and family, all qualify to receive brand new samples and overstock reading glasses from manufactures and stores.

In a few easy steps, you can provide this act of kindness: look for a need in your community, ask for approval to distribute, reserve a bag of readers, pick up, and deliver for distribution. For more information, contact Joanne VanBezey at 925-838-4104 or email her at [tealeyes50@comcast.net](mailto:tealeyes50@comcast.net)

## **Holy Week Services & Events**

Save these dates and plan to join us as we conclude our Lenten journey with these Holy Week services and events.

### *Palm Sunday, March 28*

Gather in the Sanctuary as the children recreate Jesus' welcome into Jerusalem through the traditional Palm Processional. After the second service, there will be a Family Brunch Potluck & Children's Easter Egg Hunt in Wesley Center & the Courtyard.

### *Maundy Thursday, April 2*

Join with members from our circuit churches at Lynnewood UMC in Pleasanton, for this special Maundy Thursday Taize worship.

### *Good Friday, April 3*

We'll commemorate Jesus' trial and crucifixion through Scripture, song, silent reflection and prayer

### *Easter Sunday, April 5*

Celebrate the good news of the risen Christ at one of four Easter Worship services: 6:30am, Sunrise Service in the Courtyard; 8, 9:30 and 11 am Worship in the Sanctuary



# Senior Scoop

*All Seniors and their family, friends & caregivers are invited!*

## Lunch with Friends

1st & 3rd Tuesday, Noon in Wesley Center

Lunch with Friends is a home-cooked, sit-down meal, served in Wesley Center at Noon on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Tables are set with fresh flowers and surrounded by interesting people. These lunches are the friendliest place in town.

*Tuesday, March 3 at Noon*

**Chef by Committee.** While Chef John Sanders is traveling the world we are looking for Guest Chefs until his return in May. We have Lunch with Friends kitchen staff that will make it easy! If interested please call Sandy Greenwood at 935-1109.

*Tuesday, March 17 at Noon*

Guest Chefs Rudy & Jackie Ceragioli. Menu: TBD

## Valentine's Tea Party

On Thursday, February 12 a group of Seniors visited the English Tea Room in Pleasanton for a Valentine's Tea.

A lovely afternoon was shared by all!



## ADVENTURESOME SENIORS

Adventuresome Seniors get together on the last Tuesday of the month for a potluck and program in Wesley Center. (Don't feel like cooking – just pick something up to share at the deli!)

*Tuesday, March 31 at Noon –  
Back by popular demand!*

**Program: Let's Keep Moving!** Teresa Fimby-Christensen will lead a session on exercises for Seniors.

*You do not need to make a reservation to attend any of the luncheons. (Only special events may require reservations.)*

## United Methodist Men's Breakfast

### Director of Putnam Clubhouse to Discuss Mental Health Issues

*March 21, 8am in Wesley Center*



All Methodist Men are welcome to Christian Fellowship and a hearty breakfast on the third Saturday of each month in Wesley Center starting at 8am.

On Saturday March 21, the speakers will be John Coombs and Tamara Hunter (pictured) who will speak about mental health issues. In particular, they will be discussing the role played by the Putnam Clubhouse in Concord where

Tamara is the Director and John is a [member](#). Please email Dean McWilliams at [OSI310@aol.com](mailto:OSI310@aol.com) if you would like to attend



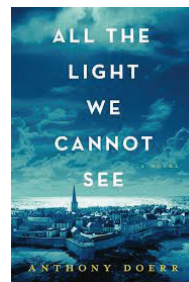
The new Directories have arrived. Please pick up your copy (one per household) after the first service on Sunday or from the church during weekday office hours.

## Afternoon Book Group

*Monday, March 16, 1 pm,  
Rm. 202, Wesley Center*

The March book is "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr.

For more information, please contact Marilyn Scott at [merebruin.scott@gmail.com](mailto:merebruin.scott@gmail.com)



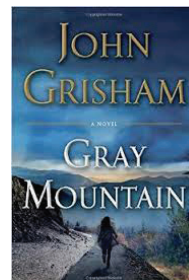
## Christ Care Book Group

*Wednesday, March 27, 2015, 10am, Library*

The Christ Care Book Group will meet March 27 at 10am in the church library. We will read and review "Gray Mountain" by John Grisham.

We will meet in April 22 after reading "Gilead" by Marilynne Robinson."

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Gloria Fenton at [gloriafromsanramon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gloriafromsanramon@sbcglobal.net)



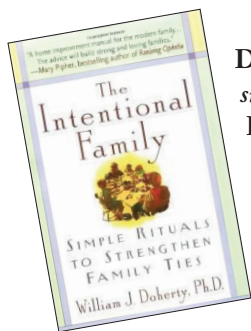


# Between the Bookends

By Sally Christopherson, Librarian



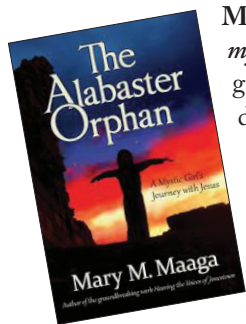
*It's time to find something good and new to read, and maybe find one or two you missed.*



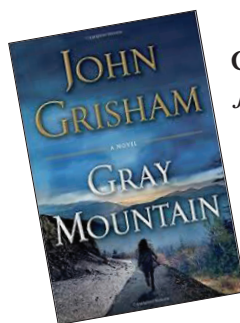
**Doherty, William J.** *The Intentional Family; simple rituals to strengthen family ties.* Pastor Ron spoke highly of this book in his sermon some weeks ago. At the time, we might not realize that those little family jokes, meals and rituals are much of the glue keeping a family strong and together!



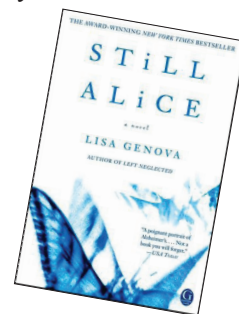
**Karon, Jan.** *Somewhere Safe With Somebody Good.* Here is #10 in the wonderful Father Tim novels. He's the small-town diabetic Episcopal priest who makes a mean baked ham for church dinners and ministers to his congregation—and whole town, occasionally—with wit and wisdom.



**Maaga, Mary M.** *The Alabaster Orphan; a mystic girl's journey with Jesus.* Esther is the girl who washed Jesus' feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. In this intriguing historical fiction, you'll meet her as she journeys with those closest to Jesus and be with her before and after well-known events and miracles. How much influence did Mary really have? Was Judas really Jesus' best friend? Fascinating and thought-provoking. Mary Maaga was the leader/presenter at the recent Women's Retreat.



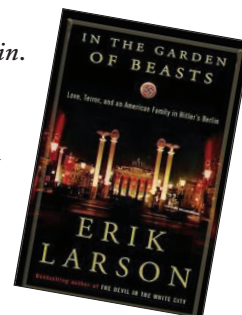
**Grisham, John.** *Calico Joe.* Yes, it's that John Grisham, the mystery writer, who knocks it out of the park with this baseball story. After reading this, you'll be on Google wondering if this is a novel or a biography. Did Joe really exist? Or not?



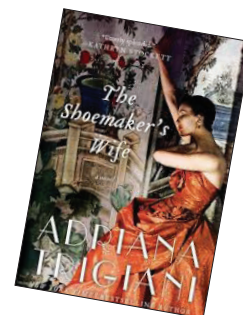
*And now for some books that have been all-star books in popularity with our congregation but have gone missing. They're baaaak!*

**Genova, Lisa.** *Still Alice.* Now a movie, the heart-breaking story of a woman linguistics professor who suffers the devastating effects of early onset Alzheimer's. How she reacts... how her family reacts.

**Larson, Erik.** *In the Garden of Beasts; love, terror and an American family in Hitler's Berlin.* It's 1933 and a mild-mannered professor is sent to Berlin as our American ambassador. As he witnesses the rising power of the Nazi party, he sends repeated warnings back to Washington that go unnoticed. As he tells about the charming, but frightening, Goebbels, the account is chilling.



**Trigiani, Adriana.** *The Shoemaker's Wife.* A young man and young woman meet in their hometown in the Italian Alps. Is there a spark? But they lose touch as each travels to the wonders of America and new lives begin. As they reconnect, we live life in Little Italy in New York City with them, make it through World War II, and learn how hard they worked to make the dream come true.



*No two persons ever read the same book.*  
—Edmund Wilson, 1895-1972



# FEBRUARY 2015 DISCOVERY CLASS

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED INTO FELLOWSHIP ON  
February 8, 2015

Facilitators for this class were Ron Dunn, Sunny Ahn and Devon Drake.  
(Please add this page to the back of your church directory.)



**BALLES, NANCY, 25 Bevmar Ln., Alamo 94507**

[mamieruth21@yahoo.com](mailto:mamieruth21@yahoo.com)

**553-7189**

*Neighborhood: Miranda*

**FOULDS, JAN & BILL, 104 Florence Ct., Alamo 94507**

[jan.foulds@att.net](mailto:jan.foulds@att.net)

[bill.foulds@att.net](mailto:bill.foulds@att.net)

**683-2060**

*Neighborhood: Bryan Ranch/Whitegate*

**GARRIOCH, EVELYN, 950 Diablo Rd., Apt. 151, Danville 94526**

[evelyngarrioch@yahoo.com](mailto:evelyngarrioch@yahoo.com)

**408/884-8394**

*Neighborhood: El Cerro*

**GRAHAM, JOHN & LAURA BYRNE GRAHAM, 31 San Ysidro Ct., Danville 94526 718-5417**

[jpglab@gmail.com](mailto:jpglab@gmail.com)

*Neighborhood: El Cerro*

**JANCARIK, LISA, 677 Park Hill Rd., Danville 94526**

[lisajancarik@gmail.com](mailto:lisajancarik@gmail.com)

**217-4205**

*Neighborhood: Diablo West/Sycamore*

**SHIBUYA, JILL, 440 Marian Ln., Danville 94526**

[jes3134@yahoo.com](mailto:jes3134@yahoo.com)

**263-9115**

*Neighborhood: Amigo*

**van der ZEE, JEANNE, 3341 Tice Creek Dr. #10, Walnut Creek 94595**

**707/834-4477**

*Neighborhood: Rossmoor S*

**VOJDANI, JANA, 618 Oakshire Pl., Alamo 94507**

[jvojdani@aol.com](mailto:jvojdani@aol.com)

**263-2909**

*Neighborhood: Roundhill*

# SRVUMC CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Stephanie Ham, Director of Children's Ministry

**Announcement:** During the month of February, in grades 2-5 we worked on the Lord's Prayer. We welcome kids of all ages to recite The Lord's Prayer to Stephanie sometime during the month of March. The first 30 kids to successfully recite The Lord's Prayer by memory will win a free pass to Rockin' Jump.

As followers of Christ, "I can trust God no matter what" is a phrase we all say. And for the most part we sincerely believe it and live it out. We trust God to provide for our basic needs, for our safety, even for our health and well-being. But there are certain moments when trusting God seems just a bit more difficult—often those are the times when we're forced to wait. Throughout our life, we will face times when we're not where we once were, but we're not yet at our final destination. Instead, we're somewhere in between. Put simply: we're waiting. And it's in the waiting that our faith is tested.

Which is why allowing God to develop patience in us is important. Not only is patience a Fruit of the Spirit, it is a foundational way that we can reflect God's character. From the very beginning God has shown patience with people. When Adam and Eve broke God's rule, He could have killed them on the spot. Rather, He showed them grace. Yes, there were consequences, but God had a plan for their rescue. All throughout the Bible we see God showing patience in order that more people could come to know and believe in Him. God's patience is continually focused on relationships with people. Even after we sinned, He still pursued us. He sent Jesus, His own Son to make a way for us to be with Him. He waited time after time for people to repent and make things right. Something He still does today.

## *Our Bottom Lines for the Month of March*

**Bottom Line #1:** When you think you can't wait, think twice.

**Bottom Line #2:** When you think you can't wait, think about what's true.

**Bottom Line #3:** When you think you can't wait, don't lose your cool.

**Bottom Line #4:** When you think you can't wait, talk to God about it.

**Bottom Line #5:** Remember that God's plan is bigger than yours.

When we demonstrate patience, we are less likely to hurt our relationships with others. We are more likely to trust that God has something better for us in the future. And when we trust God with our future, even when we're "in-between" on life's journey and asking Him "Are we there yet?" we can have patience knowing that His plan and His timing are always better than our own. The Bible is full of stories and principles that help us realize the importance of discovering how to be patient.

While we're discovering what God has to tell us about patience, we'll be talking about Psalm 27:14: "Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord." Thankfully, we don't have to wait in our own power. Our hope is in God. He will give us the strength to remember that it's worth the wait. It's important to remember that learning patience doesn't happen in a moment; it takes time. As we talk to kids about how they can reflect God through how they show patience, it's important to remember that this is something they'll be developing for the rest of their lives, and something we, as adults, can probably use some work on ourselves.

## *VBS Registration Opens March 1<sup>st</sup>*



### *July 13-16th from 9 -12*

Special Registration fee of \$30 per camper until April 4<sup>th</sup>  
After April 5<sup>th</sup>, regular pricing of \$40 per camper takes effect  
Registration closes June 18<sup>th</sup> so get signed up before we fill up!

Registration is only available online at

[www.srvumc.org/children](http://www.srvumc.org/children)

We are looking your adults and youth to help with VBS 2015.  
Please contact Stephanie Ham if you are interested at sham@srvumc.org

## *Save the Date!*

### **Family Brunch Pot Luck & Easter Egg Hunt**

*March 29 after the 10:30am Service,*

*Wesley Center & Courtyard*

SRVUMC families are invited to join us on Palm Sunday for a brunch and Easter egg hunt! Bring a brunch dish to share (enough to feed your family + 2 more people), and baskets for collecting eggs. The Egg hunt will take place after the brunch and will have sectioned areas for each age group.

**Donations Needed:** We are looking for donations for the Egg Hunt and Brunch. Please bring your donation of candy, plastic Easter Eggs, and small toys or trinkets to church and place them in the donation bin in Wesley. Please, no candy with nuts!







# YOUTH MINISTRY

Luke Ham, Youth Pastor

## On-The-Move with the Youth

As always, there is a lot of activity taking place in the youth department!

During Presidents day weekend, nearly 50 youth from our congregation enjoyed a trip to Disneyland! Many thanks go to the nine adult volunteers who drove and chaperoned on the trip and to our host church, Brea UMC.

On March 7th, our confirmation class will have the chance to meet with Youth all over the conference as they attend the annual Bishop's Retreat at Monte Toyon. This is a time where the class learns about the Bishop as well as the rich history of Methodists in California. At the end of the retreat, the Bishop leads communion and the confirmands are blessed as they continue in their journey towards full membership in the church. Please keep this year's confirmation class in your prayers as we get closer and closer to confirmation Sunday!

On Wednesday, March 11th youth, parents and grandparents are invited to a special discussion panel about the abuse of prescription drugs in our community from 7-8:30pm

All Juniors and sophomores interested in going on Spring Break college road trip: We will be having a planning meeting on Thursday March, 12 at 7pm, Wesley Center in the Youth Room. Past college visits included UC Davis, University of the Pacific,

Cal Poly- SLO, UCSB, UCLA, USC, Chapman University, Pepperdine University and many more!

Youth and Parents: Registration for our summer mission trips have gone out! Please make sure to secure your spot on one of these life changing trips ASAP!

On April 18, we will be having our annual 30-hour famine. This is a time where youth purposively fast for 30-hours as they raise awareness about the hunger crisis in our world. During our evening together we will be learning about the realities of starvation and malnourishment throughout the world and ways in which we can help. We break our fast with communion followed by a wonderfully delicious feast. If you would like to get involved, there are 3 ways in which we need help:

- 1) You can help Chaperone the event on the evening of April 18th.
- 2) You can donate a food item for our feast to break our fast. (e.g. Mac-N-Cheese, Lasagna, Ham etc.)
- 3) You can make a monetary donation which will be used to help feed starving families throughout the world.

*Blessings,  
Luke*

# Among Ourselves

## Health Concerns...

Charlie Roth	Steve Colman
Dick Greeno	Donna Johnston
Jim Bunker	Jean White
Judy Slinger	

## Our Christian Sympathy to:

- Vera Robinson and family on the death of Al, on Jan. 30th. A memorial was held in our sanctuary on Feb. 13th.
- Ed Bader and family on the death of Marian on Jan. 29th. A memorial service will be held in our sanctuary on Feb. 28th at 2:00 p.m.
- Daphne Kimbell, Danni Sherman, and families on the death of Dale at 97. Memorial service details to be determined.
- ClaudeC Johannessen and family on the death of her sister, Nancy Ann in Louisiana.

## 2014 Giving Statements

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** 2014 year-end giving statements were sent Monday, 1/26, either by email or snail mail. If you did not get your statement, please contact Shannon in the Church Office.

## Continued Prayers For...

*All those who continue to live with long-term illness, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families:*

Bill Andrew; Lyn Bristow; Steve Colman; Lenore Cooper; John Evans; Brigitte Greene; Dick Greeno; Ann Hatfield; Dave & Lillian Holleman; Cary Johnson; Johnny & Donna Johnston; Del Kennedy; Daphne Kimbell; Jada Koonce; Alleen Landstrom; Larry Liggett; Jen Lotz-Kush; Margaret Matteson; Alex Maddux; Ruth Meier; Mary Ogden; Alice Reynolds; Ethel Ricker; Mike Robinett; Charlie & Phyllis Roth; Ann Schroeder; Dick & Pat Shoner; Carol Webb; Joan Webb; Jean White.

## Welcome

- Nola Rose to Skipper & Sara George. Proud grandparents are Liz & Skip George.
- Owen Dwight Malone, born 2/19, to Denise & Dwight Malone. Proud grandparents Sharon & Dennis Greene.

## Photo Directories

Our new picture directories are finally here!!! Many thanks to Nancy Garnick and Sally Andrew for a fabulous job coordinating this effort from start to finish. You may pick up your directory either in the Courtyard between services on Sunday or in the Church Office during the week.

## Name Tags

Please contact Shannon Dever in the church office if you need a new name tag (\$6/ea.)



# April Celebrations

## Birthdays

- |                    |                               |                             |                      |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Steve Brown      | 9 Randy Helms                 | Bruce Koliha                | 24 Rafael Altamirano |
| Julien Hansen      | 10 Kevin Dimler               | 15 Alexis Bybel             | Jim Aude             |
| Jim Hardy          | Lucy Carrico                  | Ruth Riggin                 | Larry Henderson      |
| 2 Dave Webb        | Dave McWilliams               | 17 Randy Durrenberger       | Debbie Koos          |
| Paul Yarmolich     | Sandy Yarmolich               | Kathi McShane               | Rosemarie Place      |
| 3 Elizabeth Andrew | 11 Lisa Robinson Best         | 18 Shelley Lettis           | Karen Randall        |
| 4 Linda Green      | Jeff Leontini                 | Joseph Nelson               | Christina Rowland    |
| Joanne Van Bezey   | Blaine Mucklow                | 19 Jennifer Andres          | Bill Steele          |
| 5 Barbara Brick    | Craig Schleicher              | Nancy Vazquez               | Annette Warwick      |
| Robert Fenton      | Bill Schneider                | Robbie Whiting              | 25 Gloria Fenton     |
| Jayne Schnittker   | Rhona Sherrill                | 20 Bill Dastic              | Jessica Kuelz        |
| 6 Lonnie Bristow   | 12 Alice Anthony              | Eric Johnson                | Donna Lindquist      |
| Sam Colman         | <b>Charlotte Garner (90)</b>  | Alene Miskovetz             | Kelly Ryan           |
| Spencer Drake      | Jada Koonce                   | Lavonne Rodean              | 26 Karen Brown       |
| Taylor Munk        | Madison Luecht                | Trevor Vazquez              | Steve Garnick        |
| Lee Russ           | <b>Margaret Matteson (92)</b> | 21 John Evans               | 27 Lynne Henderson   |
| Sarah Stribling    | Katie Weeks                   | Bonnie Roberts              | 28 John Mitchell     |
| 7 Molly Ehlers     | 13 Warrie Alday               | <b>Lillian Scherer (93)</b> | Dan Whiting          |
| Martha Kitajima    | Doug Hinzle                   | Brian Uitti                 | 29 Jeff Koepp        |
| Jan Knadle         | Bee Gee Millinich             | 22 Sally Andrew             | Jorie Robinson       |
| Johnathan Robinson | Rosanne Ogles                 | Randy Christensen           | Shirley Stephenson   |
| 8 Nancy Benvenuto  | 14 Christy Campbell           | Jill Shibuya                | Vera Robinson        |
| Jeryn Blair Smario | Cliff Campbell                | 23 Charles Fiedler          | 30 Dorothy Reed      |
| Katie Campbell     | Madeline DeWalt               | Boyd Hasik                  |                      |
| Trudy Pasquale     |                               |                             |                      |

## Wedding Anniversaries

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Deanna & Clayton Clark                  | 12 Debra & Ed Chin                         |
| 3 Ginger & Warren McGuffin                | Debbie & Greg Koos                         |
| 4 Amy & Mark Seaman                       | Deborah & Johnathan Robinson               |
| 6 Susan & Ron Dunn                        | 16 Helen & Steve Smith                     |
| 7 Jean & Chuck Desmond                    | 20 <b>Wendy &amp; Tony Cooper (52nd)</b>   |
| Kathy & Adam Kennedy                      | Laurie & Terry Stocking                    |
| 8 Linda & John Green                      | 23 Kim & Will Maddux                       |
| Teri & Steve Hawk                         | 24 Lael & Gerard Takiguchi                 |
| Sara & Jim Rossini                        | 25 Joanne & Randy Durrenberger             |
| <b>Jayne &amp; John Schnittker (59th)</b> | Kirsten & Scott Ericson                    |
| 11 Marilyn & George Clarke                | 26 Melanie & Boyd Hasik                    |
| Winnie & Brad Stribling                   | 29 <b>Donna &amp; John Johnston (71st)</b> |



MARCH 2015

## Worship Schedule

Traditional Worship, 9:00 am in the Sanctuary

Non-Traditional Worship, 10:30 am, in the Sanctuary

Lenten Centerpoint Worship Service, Every Wednesday until April 2, 6:30pm, in the Sanctuary

Child Care for birth-kindergarten is available during the morning services in the Children's Building

Time-valued material — Deliver promptly  
2/26/2015

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