



The Valley Messenger

A publication of San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

OCTOBER 2015

A Parsonal Point of View ~

A Strategic Advantage

In the wake of our recent “kick-off” Sunday on September 13, our fall season is now officially underway. It was good to gather in one worship service as we shared together in the rituals and the music that help to define who we are as a United Methodist congregation. Based on the comments that a number of you have made, I was not the only one to appreciate the blending of our two services and the use of both our traditional hymns and our more contemporary expressions in song. Good music invites good worship, regardless of whether that music happens to be old or new. Thanks to all of our musicians and choir members who shared their musical talents in order to make this celebration possible.

As we now move into this new season, one of the primary agenda items before us is the adoption of our new strategic plan. We recently found ourselves in the midst of staging three Town Hall Meetings for the purpose of addressing some of the detail and direction of this plan. **Sunday evening, September 27 at 7:00 p.m.** was our last scheduled meeting. Next, our Administrative Board will be asked to approve this plan at a specially called meeting on **Tuesday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m.**

in the Fireside Room.

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Next Issue: November 2015

Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik newsletter@srvumc.org by October 15, 2015

As a way of bringing everyone up to date with the process that we have observed, I would like to briefly highlight some of primary steps that we have taken over the last 21 months.

The United Methodist Mission Statement suggests that it is our purpose to **“Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”**

Based upon this mission statement, we created two different task force groups.

- **A Theological Task Force** that focused its discussion on the question of what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

- **A Transformation Task Force** that directed its attention to the question of transformation: what it looks like, and what it means to participate in its work.

The thoughts and ideas of these two groups were compiled and shared with a variety of small groups and organizations in the life of our congregation. These groups and organizations were then asked to share their own understanding of what it

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means to follow Jesus, and what it means to transform the world. Once again, this information was captured and forwarded to the next group — the Strategic Planning Committee.

The Strategic Planning Committee began its work in August of 2014. Over the past year, this committee has held numerous meetings and has expanded its planning circle to include individual task groups representing each of seven different areas of focus. These areas of focus were then fashioned into seven initiatives — initiatives that were determined by considering our core values and all of the previous information gathered. These seven strategic initiatives are as follows:

- 1) *Create opportunities for people to connect and belong.*
- 2) *Develop thriving family ministries.*
- 3) *Service in everything that we do.*
- 4) *Outreach to and attraction of key segments of the population.*
- 5) *Develop and expand ministry through effective use of technology and social media.*
- 6) *Create a worship environment that is engaging, meaningful and memorable.*
- 7) *Effectively utilize the facilities and enhance the appearance of the campus.*

Having determined these initiatives, the Strategic Planning Committee then organized three “Town Hall Meetings” for the purpose of communicating our Strategic Plan to our congregation. As the Town Hall Meeting phase concludes, the Strategic Planning Committee will make a proposal to our Administrative Board to adopt this as our Strategic Plan.

I realize that this is a lot of process detail to share in this column and there would be wisdom, perhaps, in providing more of a “short form overview.” But I have decided not to do that because I believe that it is important for our congregation to realize the depth and the detail that has been involved in this unfolding process. The proposal that will be voted on in October is the product of untold hours of conversation with many, many different people. It has attempted to be faithful to our core values and the unique identity that we share as a progressive people of faith.

While this is not a perfect document, it does reflect John Wesley’s understanding that, as people of faith, we are “going on to perfection.” As time passes, we will have the opportunity to perfect our plan as need and circumstance dictate. As Mark Jewett, Co-Chair of the Committee, has suggested all along, this is intended to be a living document, one that will continue to be revised and shaped with the passing of time.

If you would like to read through the details of this plan, you will be able to find it posted on our website at SRVUMC.org. If you have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Terry Sherman, Mark Jewett or Sanjiv Moré.

As the verse from Proverbs would remind us, **“Without a vision the people perish.” (Proverbs 29: 18)**

It is vitally important for us to have a vision of where we want to go and how we will choose to get there. This strategic plan represents our best effort to clarify the specific direction that we will take as we move forward into our future. Thanks to all who have worked so hard to give shape and substance to this work. Your work is much appreciated!

Grace & Peace,

Ron

Report from the Administrative Board Meeting of September 15, 2015

By Terry Sherman

The Administrative Board met Tuesday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Quentin Alexander reported that ARC building plans are in structural review by the county. Eight different county departments review some portion of the plans. Once approved, the next step is to secure a building permit. The contractor and subcontractors have been updating their bids so that a final construction cost can be established.

Two town hall meetings have been held to engage the congregation and provide feedback on the proposed strategic plan initiatives. One more congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m., in Wesley Center. A special **Ad Board meeting** will be held Tuesday, October 20, to consider approval of the strategic plan.

The Ad Board approved revisions to the Preschool Bylaws.

Pastor Luke Ham reported on the well-attended (50+) recent Youth Retreat. Twenty eighth-graders will be participating in this year's Confirmation Class.

Pastor Sunny Ahn invited church leaders to attend an **Intercultural Leadership Training** program on Saturday, October 17. On October 4, the church will celebrate **Heritage Sunday** in conjunction with World Communion Sunday. A Heritage Luncheon will be held after second service. Pastor Sunny will be attending a conference October 7 through 9 addressing mental health and small groups for those with mental health issues. She reported that Kindness Korps is expanding and robust.

Pastor Ron Dunn reported that Kick-Off Sunday was a success. The Chancel and Living Water Choirs were commended for their inspirational and innovative contribution to the service. **The Committee on Lay Leadership is preparation for the All Church Conference to be held Tuesday, November 17, at 7:15 p.m.**

The minutes of the Administrative Board meeting are posted on the Church website.

The next regular meeting of the Ad Board will be on Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m., followed by the All Church Conference at 7:15.

Mission Moments: Building Big and Small



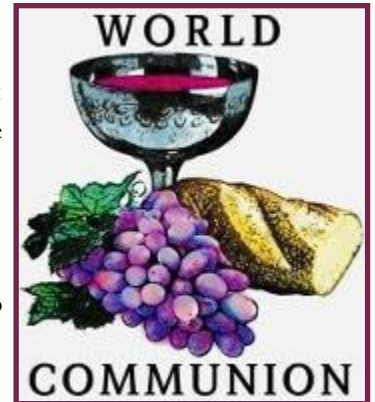
October Communion Offering

This month marks World Communion Day, and our communion offering for the month of October supports not only World Communion Day scholarships but also the California-Nevada Conference Disaster Response Fund.

World Communion Day

This year, World Communion Day occurs Sunday, October 4, and our giving will support national and international undergraduate and graduate students. This funding will also provide some non-degree training for student-activists who will combat problems of pollution, poverty and healthcare. Specifically, World Communion Sunday provides World Communion Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the ethnic In-Service Training Program.

The future world-changers educated on these scholarships would not otherwise be able to afford the advanced education. The donations supporting their training leverages their God-given intellectual gifts to their fullest potential.



California-Nevada Conference Disaster Response Fund

The evening news continues to air stories of this season's wildfires, among the worst in California history according to news sources including the *San Jose Mercury News*. Hundreds of homes and public spaces have been damaged or destroyed. At the time of press, a *New York Times* article dated September 17 reported some 13,000 people evacuated — nearly as many people as the population of Alamo (source: CensusViewer.com)! — with about 2,700 of them heading to evacuation centers.

In a message posted to the California-Nevada Conference website, Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr. called upon us to support this fund, which he described as “almost completely depleted.”

“This fund allows us to send financial support immediately to United Methodists involved in disaster response work across our annual conference,” Bishop Brown explained.

In this message, he called for a special offering to be taken on September 20. **Beginning with that Sunday, SRVUMC will share offerings for three Sundays, including a portion of the Communion Offering.**

The United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) has issued grants for the Rock/Lake County Fire and the Butte/Amador County Fire. However, the conference's disaster response fund must bridge the need for relief until the grants arrive. Plus, UMCOR grants often require some matching funds from the conference.

United Methodist congregations in the areas near the fires are supplying meals, providing sleeping bags, and offering housing. This work continues as concerns for homes and church properties continues.

If you wish to make a donation as an individual to the UMCOR fund, then visit <https://calnev-reg.brtapp.com/disasterresponse>.

According to a *San Jose Mercury News* article posted to the newspaper's website on September 14, the **Valley Fire** (Lake, Napa and Sonoma Counties), the **Rough Fire** (Sierra National Forest), and the **Butte Fire** (Amador and Calaveras Counties) **have already burned an area ten times the size of the city of San Francisco.**

Historically, the article points out, October can be the most destructive month as conditions reach their driest.

Board of Trustees Report on Solar System

by Sally Andrew, September 17, 2015

In 2012, as part of his generous donation of the Athletic & Recreation Center, our Anonymous Donor offered to pay for a solar system for the entire campus. Knowing that it would take a while to complete the ARC, the solar system was installed in 2013 on the rest of the campus so we could immediately start benefiting from the electricity cost savings. We have 280 solar modules on our roofs to directly convert sunlight into electricity through eight large inverters.

Want to Know How This Donation Is Affecting Our Church Budget?

For the three years preceding this installation, our electric bill averaged almost \$32,000 per year. The system became operational in October 2013, and we are now spending \$600 per year. We pay a Net Energy Metering (NEM) fee to PG&E every month that averages \$50 and covers our minimum electric charges. Once a year in September we receive a NEM True-up statement that provides our net energy charges and credits over the entire year and shows any final balance due. Our True-up charges were \$1,550 for our first year of solar generation, and we have a \$513 credit for our second year. The church did incur a few minor costs for a general contractor, tree removal, and building the enclosure for the inverters, but our Anonymous Donor paid for the system which has saved us an estimated \$64,000 to date. Our church owns the system, so there is no monthly leasing fee. We qualified for solar rebates through PG&E, which made the system more cost-efficient for our Donor to purchase. As PG&E raises the cost of purchasing electricity, our cost savings are predicted to get even better each year.

“For the three years preceding this installation, our electric bill averaged almost \$32,000 per year. The system became operational in October 2013, and we are now spending \$600 per year.”

“Net metering” is the term given to a utility meter that will literally “turn backward.” During the day, our system is producing a lot of electricity, which flows back into the power grid, and our meter runs backwards because we use less than we generate. At night, when we are not generating electricity, our meter runs as usual. We are on a “time-of-use” payment plan, which means we pay more for electricity used during peak hours (daylight) and less at night. We also earn the higher rate of credit for electricity generated during peak hours. When PG&E experiences a power outage, our system automatically shuts down and disconnects from the grid so utility workers making repairs are not endangered.

Here’s the Technical Piece...

Our solar modules are a series of photovoltaic cells wired together. The photovoltaic (PV) cell is the smallest element that converts light into electrical energy. Each cell is made of silicon, like a computer chip. The silicon is treated so that it generates a flow of electricity when light shines on it. These do not heat water or impact our natural gas use. Our system is designed to generate 70,388 CEC AC watts.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) establishes standards for photovoltaic systems, which are used to calculate rebates and performance ratings. Performance Test Conditions (PTC) DC watts are the rating of a module in real-world conditions. CEC AC watts are the total PTC DC of solar modules factoring in inverter efficiency. This is the number that a rebate is based on. Each of our modules is rated as 290 watts, so 290 x 280 modules are 81,200 PTC DC watts. The CEC (more realistic) number is slightly lower than this.

Our system has a 10-year warranty on workmanship and 25-year warranty on performance. Solar panels have no moving parts, so they are not prone to failure, and it is commonly thought that panels should last for 40 years or more. **Brian Roberts** and **Boyd Hasik**, our volunteer campus maintenance men, monitor our system daily and maintain it with periodic cleaning of the modules to ensure peak efficiency. So that is the great news about our solar system!

Women of the Church, Hear This:

A Close Encounter with Catharine Baker, SRVUMC Member and California Assembly Representative, 16th District



- Speaking Tuesday, October 13, 2015, 10:30 a.m. in Wesley Center
- Pastor Ron Dunn will bring the devotions and introduce Catharine Baker, who represents this region, including Lamorinda and Tri-Valley
- Bring your questions and stay for lunch!
- RSVP to the Church Office 837-5243 by October 8: don't miss your chance to be counted!



Don't forget the Christmas Tea, December 12, 2015.

CALLING ALL MAKERS OF BEAUTIFUL THINGS! 8th Annual Holiday Boutique Craft Fair November 7, 2015

Featuring treasures created by our own church folk and members of the community. For the past seven years we have consistently shown high-quality handmade items, such as:

- Jewelry
- Quilted table linens
- Handmade shawls and sweaters
- Fused glass ornaments
- Handmade caramels
- Silk floral arrangements, and more!

Many of our previous artisans are returning along with some fresh faces. If you have creative talents, we need you! Reserve a space and get busy creating art or tasty treats. Space fee of \$35 and 10% of your total sales will be donated to the church. Call **Shannon Dever (837-5243)** for info. Friends and family welcome!

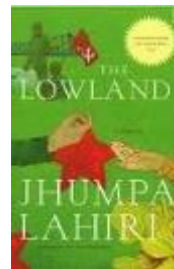
AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Monday 1:00 p.m.

Rm. 202, Wesley Center

Monday, October 19 — ***The Lowland*** by Jhumpa Lahiri
(Mary Jane leading)

Monday, November 16 — ***A Man Called Ove*** by Fredrik Backman (Lee leading)



Have You Been “Living the Questions” Led by David Coombs at 9 a.m. Sunday Mornings

- What do we say to Christians who cannot be literalists?
- If some of us accept the Bible as a human product, are we Christians?

The series “Living the Questions” was produced in 2005 and was seen by many in our church. Yet it is just as relevant today as it was a decade ago. I have taught in adult education for twenty years, and I know we are a questioning group. Each session begins with a short DVD presentation by many of the progressive Christian leaders: Marcus Borg, Dom Crossan, John Bell, John Cobb, Jr., Tex Sample, Jack Spong and others. There will be plenty of time for discussion. This is an engaging and thought provoking series.

Classes began on September 27, but you can still join us in the **Fireside Room!**

Intercultural Leadership Training

Saturday, October 17, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Fireside Room

Pastors Ron, Sunny and Luke are bringing an Intercultural Leadership Training to San Ramon Valley UMC. The training will be led by Rev. Dr. Dale M. Weatherspoon of the Good Samaritan UMC and Rev. Sun Hee Kim of St. Paul UMC who are the trainers from i-Relate, an organization that believes the cultural competency is a leadership skill that can be learned.



We are encouraging all members of staff, Staff-Parish Relation Committee, Administrative Board, Lay Leadership Team, Board of Trustees, and people who would like learn the intercultural leadership skills to attend this half-day program. We will focus on the training in cross-cultural communication for the dynamic and effective ministry through us in this changing world. Please contact one of the pastors if you have any questions. **Please let Pastor Sunny know you're coming.**

Interested in membership with us?

Discovery Class

Learn more about San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church by attending **this two-day class offered in October on Sunday, 10/11 and 10/18 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.**

This class is designed for people who are interested in becoming members or who just want to know about our faith and our ministries. Come discover what we are all about and how you can make this church your home. For more information, please contact **Kathleen Saghafi at 925-837-5243** or email her at ksaghafi@srvumc.org.

Leaders: Ron Dunn, rdunn@srvumc.org
Sunny Ahn, sahn@srvumc.org
Kathleen Saghafi, ksaghafi@srvumc.org

3RD GRADE BIBLE DEDICATION

**OCTOBER 18TH
9 AM SERVICE**

**SIGN UP TO RECEIVE YOUR BIBLE
CONTACT STEPHANIE AT
SHAM@SRVUMC.ORG**



World Communion Sunday & Heritage Luncheon

October 4, following 10:30 a.m. service

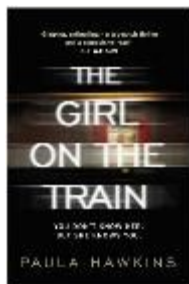
Our Church will celebrate the beauty of multiculturalism in worship and fellowship.

- For the celebration, you are encouraged to wear your own traditional clothes to church.
- **After the 10:30 a.m. worship**, we will have our first annual Heritage Luncheon by sharing the foods from our many rich cultural backgrounds.
- Please sign up with **Saba Kanwal** (saba9505@hotmail.com) or **Nancy Benvenuto** (nancybenvenuto@gmail.com) in the courtyard after church. You can sign up for coming for the Heritage Luncheon only OR both joining the luncheon and bringing the food.
- We are encouraging \$5 freewill donation for food if you are joining the luncheon without bringing food to share. The collected fund will be given to the mission agency that works on unity in diversity.

The Christ Care Book Group

October 28 at 10 a.m. in the church library to review and discuss *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins.

The book group does not meet during November or December. The group resumes in January 2016.



Greetings Med-Share Volunteers!

By John Green

I hope you all felt as I did after our three hours of working together on August 15. I couldn't ask for a better way to spend a few hours: working at something that benefits many in our world, a world for many who are left behind in poverty and disease. It is difficult to place a face on someone who is helped by our work, but it could be a young child, maybe an infant. Maybe a parent needs medicine or a medical procedure to become healthy enough to look after his or her family will benefit.

However, it's not just the value of our individual efforts, it's the value of our combined efforts. I feel happiness and the great emotion of love as I am surrounded by dear friends, family and new acquaintances. As we gather around a work area, we hold the same values — we don't just wish the world was brighter. No, instead we take action to make it so.

We were a connecting piece in the flow of good deeds by many others including these: The medical facilities who donate unused medical materials; the Med-Share staff who receive them; we worker bees (and others like us); Med-Share who stores the materials and makes known their availability to the world; and the medical facilities and medical staffs around the world, particularly in the poorer regions of our world, who are devoted to the care of others.

Thanks all to eighteen of us, and especially to these special folks who joined us:

- A twelve-year-old Boy Scout.
- Natalie Oberhauser-Lim, a young woman and member of our church who is embarking on her own career in the medical field.
- Robin, Karen Brown's friend, and United Methodist member from Lafayette church. Thanks, Robin!
- Mike Green, our son. Thanks, Mike!

We shared our God-given gifts with and for others.



MedShare volunteers worked together on August 15.

Got Lunch?



What if this is his only meal today?

\$10 buys week of lunches.

\$100 buys a school year of lunches.





Between the Bookends



By Sally Christopherson, Librarian

Calling all book lovers! Calling all lovers of libraries! Our wonderful and accessible Church Library is issuing a call: PLEASE SIGN THE BOOK CARD WHICH IS IN THE BACK OF EVERY BOOK ON THE BOOK CART AND LEAVE IT IN THE SMALL WOODEN BOX!

Numberless books have been taken from the cart with no card left behind. Thus, we don't know who has those books and cannot send out reminders when others ask for them. Currently, the most frequently requested is ***Yes, Chef***, by **Marcus Samuelsson**, which is Walnut Creek's annual book choice. It was taken from the cart and not checked out — might you be the one? We're waiting for its return!

In our busy lives, it's easy to spot a good new book on the Cart, pick it up, chat a minute with someone else also choosing a book, and then walk away with it. Please, when you approach that book cart, tell yourself that if you walk away with a book, you must first leave a signed card behind. And if you see someone else take a book, gently remind them that the library needs those signed book cards in the box!

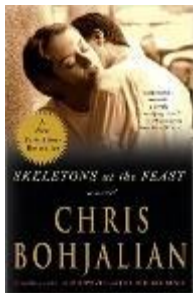
That said, the good books keep on coming — here are a few:

WANTED...



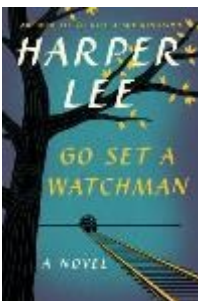
Signed book cards!

Bohjalian, Chris. *Skeletons at the Feast*. As WWII was coming

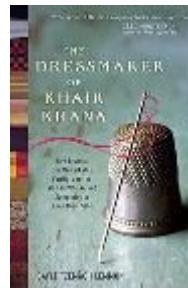


to an end, one of the saddest migrations was that of Germans and Poles fleeing the approaching Russians from the east. It was winter. Men and even young teenage boys had been conscripted into the German army, and desperate women and children were on their own. Russians soldiers had become notorious for brutal treatment of the almost-defeated Germans. This family was helped and guided by a most unlikely hero that appeared out of the forest — was he a hero? They decided to trust him.

Lee, Harper. *Go Set a Watchman*. Here it is — the prequel to the beloved *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Controversy has surrounded this book: did Harper Lee want it released, or did attorneys unduly influence the aged author? The Atticus Finch depicted is not the beloved Atticus Finch we know from *Mockingbird*. Many thanks to the ChristCare Book Group for this special gift to our Library.



Lemmon, Gayle Tzemach. *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana*.



When the Taliban took control in Afghanistan, things changed overnight for women. They were banned from school and they could not leave their homes unless accompanied by a man in their own family. But what if the men in your family were far away in the military? Kamila Sidiqi had five sisters, and desperation — and smarts — led to an idea of a way to survive. The title tells it all: Kamila not only survived, she thrived in an almost impossible situation, as Taliban foot soldiers patrolled outside her door. Many thanks to Lisa Jancarik for this inspiring true account of a woman I would love to know!

Senior Scoop

ADVENTURESOME SENIORS POTLUCK

Tuesday, October 6 @ Noon

Adventuresome Seniors get together on the 1st Tuesday of the month for a potluck followed by a program in Wesley Center. Bring your favorite dish or dessert to share – or just stop by the deli on your way over!

Program: Healthy Aging Series Kick-Off with Panel of Experts

This month's panel will focus on three health issues that seniors and their families need to be aware of and how they affect the entire family. **This program is not just for seniors but also for family members/caregivers who are helping with any senior health issues – everyone is welcome to the potluck followed by the panel discussion at 1 p.m.**

- **Christine S. Mahon, M.A. of Diablo Hearing Services** – You need to hear the information your doctor gives you so that you take your medication correctly. You can't remember what you don't hear!
- **Suzanne Share, Senior Consultant, Comprehensive Pharmacy Services** – Drug interactions: how do over-the-counter and herbal medications affect prescription drugs?
- **Sandy Levine, Certified Senior Advisor and Owner of Senior Helpers** – I want to stay in my HOME and go out in a box! What if the needs of a family member are just too much to handle? What are our options?

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

Tuesday, October 20 @ Noon

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

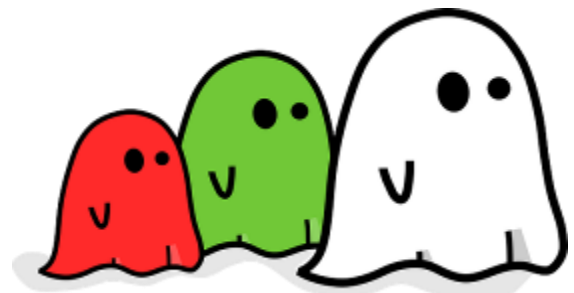
Chef John Sanders looks forward to fall serving homemade chili, cornbread, green salad and apple pie!

HALLOWEEN INTERGENERATIONAL CELEBRATION

Friday, Oct. 30 - Watch the Mini Messenger for time!

Join SRVUMC preschoolers and their families for a Halloween Parade and Potluck followed by a Halloween Party for seniors.

Volunteers needed for **Habitat for Humanity Restore** in Concord. Contact **Alice Impraim** @925-389-3185 or aliceimpraim@yahoo.com.



Don't forget! The Halloween Parade isn't just for Seniors and Preschoolers. Watch for time to be announced.

SAN RAMON VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



You're Invited



October
2ND

*B.Y.O Camping chairs
And a side dish to share*

6:30-8pm

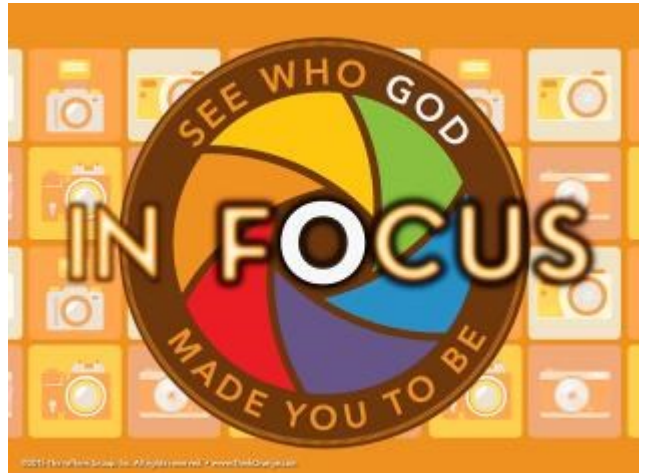
*Ready to grill hot dogs
and S'mores provided*

SRVUMC CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

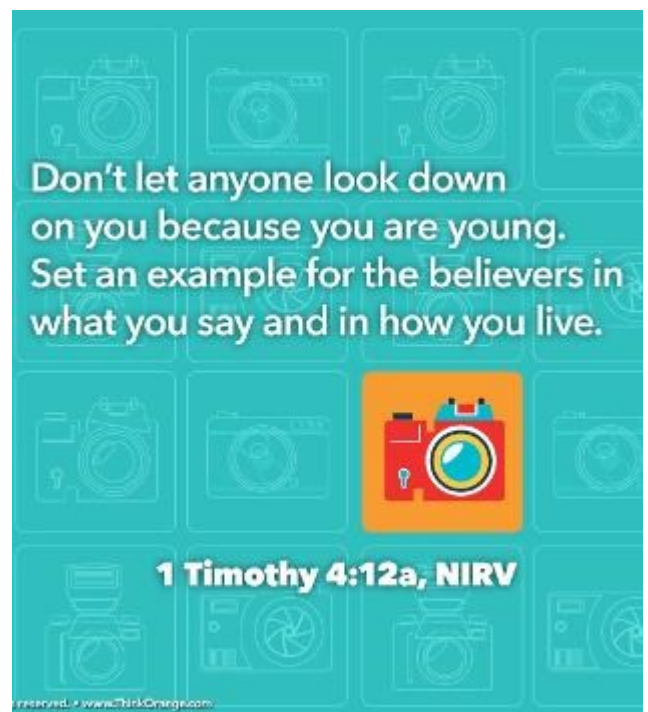
God is the only god. God is one of a kind with no beginning and no end. And everything God has created is unique and one of a kind. Each animal is not only different from other species, but also different from other like animals. No zebra has the exact same patterns of stripes. Each monkey has its own temperament. Each sparrow sings a slightly different tune. The same is true for people. God made each person one of a kind — even identical twins have unique fingerprints! Every person that ever was or ever will be is an original, including the kids we serve each week in our children's ministry environments.

Now, imagine that God created each one of those kids with an individual box of potential, and your job as a parent or leader was to help them figure out how to open it and use it. There's a tendency to treat kids like they need to wait before they can start discovering what's in their box — before they can do something that matters. But kids can use their gifts right now. Sometimes they just need some help figuring out what's in their box. As leaders in kids' lives, you can help them discover how to tap into their God-given potential. If you teach kids to find purpose NOW, they'll grow up knowing the even greater potential God has for them in the future.

This month, you have the opportunity to help kids discover who they are meant to be so they can make a difference. You can open someone's box and help them see something inside that they can use right now, maybe something about their story or some talent they may not know they have. When you help a child begin to understand that God made them, and God has given them unique abilities to love and to serve others, it has a lasting impact — not only because of what they accomplish right now, but because they are establishing a pattern of living that can change the course of their story.



Pumpkin Carving Party!
Sunday October 25th
After the 9am service in Wesley Hall
Enjoy pumpkin carving or painting, Fall festivities, games, and fun
for all ages!
B.Y.O.P. (Bring your own pumpkin)
Each family can bring a snack to share



Don't let anyone look down
on you because you are young.
Set an example for the believers in
what you say and in how you live.

1 Timothy 4:12a, NIRV

Introducing Two New Members to the Church Staff

As you may recall, when Devon Drake resigned as the Director of Membership and Mission, her position was divided into two separate positions. Linda Green and Kathleen Saghafi have been hired to fill these newly created positions.

Director of Communications Linda M. Green

Linda is a native of Kalamazoo, Michigan. She and her best friend, John, joined San Ramon Valley UMC in 1996. Linda has participated in many committees in the church as leader or member. Linda and John have five children and eight grandchildren.

Linda retired from the federal government, working for the U.S. Navy as a senior management civilian. Then she worked as an administrative assistant for Chase Mortgage for five years.

On Sundays, you may not see Linda, as she is usually in the sanctuary loft operating or assisting with the visual and sound systems during services.

Linda's hobbies and interests include anything to do with computer software and hardware, material handling (knitting, quilting, and sewing), baseball, traveling, photography and time with grandchildren.



Director of Membership and Mission Kathleen Saghafi

Kathleen was baptized at Malibu United Methodist Church, where her grandparents were among the founding members. She attended Lake Arrowhead Presbyterian Church as a child and then Redlands United Methodist Church as a teen.

On the educational front, Kathleen spent two years at Ripon College in Wisconsin and then completed her degree at UC Berkeley, where she majored in English.

Kathleen worked in high-tech advertising and marketing at Bernard Hodes Advertising for twelve years. She married Nader Saghafi in 1997, and they have two children, Joseph and Daniel. The family has lived in Danville for the past twelve years.

She has been a member of San Ramon Valley UMC for ten years. During this time, she has volunteered at the church in a number of ways, including Board of Trustees member, Sunday School teacher, Stop Hunger Now worker and youth events chaperone.

Kathleen also volunteers at the local school district and loves to garden and cook.



Journey Through the Bible, Starting March 7, 2016

Our theme for this **11-day tour of the Holy Land** will focus on His life, His times, His Land, and His Hebrew faith. Our tour is being administered by Educations Opportunity Tour (EOT), and the cost for the trip is \$2,998 (including round-trip airfare from NJ/NY to Tel Aviv). We will visit Jericho, Bethlehem Caesarea, Mount Carmel, Galilee, Nazareth, Samaria, Jerusalem and more! A **\$300 deposit** reserves your spot on the tour. **Second payment of \$1,500 is due by November 23, 2015, and final payment due by January 7, 2016.** An extra processing fee of \$140 applies for credit card payments. Pick up a tour brochure in the church office.

Contact Pastor Sunny or Phyllis Meyer for more information about this incredible trip.

Among Ourselves

Health Concerns...

Lucy Carrico Brian Roberts
Edith Liggett George Clarke
Lyn Bristow
Steve Colman
Dick Greeno

Our Christian Sympathy To

Dave Bain and family on the death of his father on August 28.
The family of Ivy Hirschfeld, wife of our first pastor Herb Hirschfeld. Ivy died on August 26.
Jerry Osborn and family on the death of his mother on August 28.
Larry Henderson and family on the death of his brother, Tod.
Jeff Lang and family on the sudden death of his cousin, Mimi, on September 11.
Roy Slicker and family on the death of Kim. Roy and Kim were former members who moved to Oregon.

Thank You

I want to express from the bottom of my heart and soul a huge thank you for all the food, flowers, visits, phone calls, cards and prayers that I received after my fall on July 24. My broken arm is healing, and I am now in physical therapy. Kindness truly does matter. Blessings,
Le Anne Jacobi

P.S. Bart says thanks to everyone, too.

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; Jeni Evans; 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; Margaret Matteson; Alex Maddux; Ruth Meier; Mary Ogden; Alice Reynolds; Ethel Rickner; Mike Robinett; Phyllis Roth; Ann Schroeder; Dick & Pat Shoner; Joan Webb; Jean White.

Seeking Room for Rent

SRVUMC church member looking to rent a cottage or guest house in the Alamo, Danville, San Ramon area. Please contact the church office for more information.

Contact Information Changes

Please update your directory!
Rudy Ceragioli – use land line: 935-2312
Ed Wolfram: 18888 Bollinger Canyon Rd. Unit 2203, San Ramon 94583; 837-2417

November Celebrations

Birthdays



1 Jacque Foster	Katie Wong	Kelly Finney	
Rob Rudow	10 Natty Oberhauser-Lim	Skipper George	
Brad Tolstedt	Gay Scott	John Green	26 Monica Albertoni
Connie Winter	Susie Steele	Bob Knowles	Ryan Howard
2 Molly Huff	11 Mary Nelson	Charlotte Speck	Jessica Merchant
Daphne Kimbell	12 Julie Dastic	19 Evelyn Garrioch (94)	Eric Newburn
Kate Kocins	Heather Hammer	Caitlyn Shaw	Rachell Newburn
Julia Morgin	Melissa Lotz	Gerard Takiguchi	Elise Norrid
Kristin Schleicher	13 Sandy Greenwood	20 Mandy George	Hannah Norrid
Marge Wood	Mark Jewett	Kelsey Grossman	Annemarie Warwick
3 Sally Christopherson	Dick Lam	Katie Turley	27 Margo Cefalo
Jo Ann Hirsch	14 Felicia Hillard	21 Connor Finney	Todd Christian
Sara Markley	Suzan Rowland	Steve Hawk	Steve Koepp
Myla Niederauer	Steve Wilkens	22 Deb Bandy	29 Brad Hawthorne
LaVena White	15 Tim Hickman	Emily Caporale	Paul Kuelz
4 Corinne Cooper	Karina Marsh	Mary Nygreen (90)	Hal Lyons
Nicole Cooper	Jack Nelson	23 Allison Cefalo	30 Jefferson Armanini
6 Susan Millinich	Carrie Tolstedt	George Clarke	John Evans
David Ongman	Barbara Valdriz	Adam Kennedy	Daniel Glover
7 Susan Thomas	Al Ziarnik	Kiyana Mostaghim	Stephanie Glover
9 Stephanie Ham	16 Donna Bain	John Sayers	Linda Farhang
Steve Marsh	Lael Takiguchi	24 Pat Patteson (94)	George Nelson
Charliene Tallett (91)	17 Kyle McFarland	Dana Takiguchi	
Lara Mays	18 John Coombs	25 Mike Henderson	

Wedding Anniversaries

1 Val & Duncan Miller	12 Cathy & Steve Colman
LaVena & Ron White	13 Saba & Shadaab Kanwal
2 Susan & Patrick Dowling	Tamra & Kevin Keen
6 Le Anne & Bart Jacobi (55 th)	16 Laurie & Joe Rousseu
8 Deirdree Walsh-Krumrei & Gary Krumrei	17 Shannon & Bill Dever
	Jennifer & David Shin
10 Sharon & Don Brockman	18 Teri & Scott Armanini
11 Catharine & Dan Baker	