



The Valley Messenger

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

APRIL 2016

A Parsonal Point of View ~

A Celebration of the Resurrection: No Reservations Needed!

Now that the rhythm of our Lenten ritual has reached its grand conclusion in the celebration of the Easter story, we come to the familiar and very appropriate question: "Now what?" Is it time to shift our focus to the "next big thing" in the church calendar year, or is there something more to this moment...something that invites us to live into it more deeply? As you might suspect, I have the strong feeling that our post-Easter reflection and response is just as important as our pre-Easter reflection and response — perhaps even more so.

Ultimately, of course, the most important question surrounding the Easter message is not just about whether we believe it, but whether we do it. The Easter story itself, is one that has become a source of discussion, debate and sometimes division among contemporary Christians. At issue is the question of whether or not Jesus was raised "bodily" from the dead. There are those who insist that it must be so if one is to be called a Christian. There are others who insist that it cannot be so if they, as Christians, are to reserve the right to think and be honest about their belief.

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Next Issue: May 2016

Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik newsletter@srvumc.org by April 15, 2016.

A theological stalemate has often ensued with each side becoming more entrenched in their point of view. While this difference of opinion and belief may be an inevitable occurrence, I do not believe that it needs to be the source of division that it has too often become. Ultimately, the true significance of the resurrection story rests not in whether or not you believe in the word-for-word, literal accounts found in the gospels, but whether or not you are willing to act upon the greater truth that they point to — namely that the love of God and its witness of compassion, grace and justice triumphs even over death itself.

Sometimes I wonder if, as Christians, our disagreements and debates over the mystery of the resurrection, isn't just a convenient way of avoiding our responsibility of actually living into the full promise of the resurrection? Is it really necessary to convince others that our particular theological perspective is the correct one? Or, wouldn't it be better to concentrate our efforts on building upon the premise of the resurrection as we live into its promise of new life?

While belief is important, we sometimes make the mistake of allowing it to become so important that it becomes an end in itself rather than a means to the end. When it comes to the Easter story and the true significance of its message of resurrection, what really matters, it seems to me, is that the "means"

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of our belief lead us to the "end" of the choice to live resurrected lives — lives that reflect the Apostle Paul's conviction that there is nothing in all of creation — not even death itself-- that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. As I mentioned in my Easter message, ultimately, "love wins!"

In this post Easter season, I look forward to sharing with you in the victory of love. In a world where conflict, hunger, terrorism and fear are at work, that witness is needed now, more than ever. Whether it is in a literal or metaphorical sense, we can all agree that "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!"

Now, it is up to take this premise and turn it into the promise of resurrected living.

Peace and Joy,

Ron

SRVUMC Endowment Fund

A gift to the endowment fund is a gift that keeps giving.

One of the creative ways to increase retirement income and benefit your church is through a Charitable Gift Annuity to the SRVUMC Endowment Fund. **The annuity gives you income tax advantages this year while providing you with dependable payments for life at fixed rates as high as 9%.** Payment rate is determined by your age and number of individuals covered at the time of the gift. An annuity may be funded by cash or appreciated securities. Donating appreciated securities provides the additional advantage of avoiding a capital gains tax, regardless of how much your stock has appreciated. The annuity gift is managed by the **CalNeva Conference Foundation.**

If you would like to see an illustration of your potential income and tax savings, please call the church office to arrange an appointment with a member of the Endowment Committee.



Introducing Our New Co-Lay Leaders

Debra Carter and Lea Hickman

Debra is a retired attorney. She and her husband, Richard, have attended SRVUMC since approximately 1992. Debra has most recently served on the Board of Trustees and is a passionate gardener, almost as passionate as she is about her three grandchildren.

Lea is currently Vice President of Products at InVision, a technology startup. Her family joined SRVUMC over ten years ago. She lives in Danville with her husband Tim, their three daughters, two cats and one dog. She loves to travel and knit, sometimes at the same time.

Lea and Debra have been tapped to usher in a new era in Lay Leadership. Along with the new Strategic Plan and the revised structure of church administration (now the new Church Council), the new role of the Co-Lay Leaders has been significantly modified. While still responsible for representing the congregation and staying attuned to the needs, concerns and interests of its members, Lea and Debra will have a more expansive role. Their job will be to look at the “big picture” as the new Strategic Plan rolls out, by actively listening to you and working hard to get questions answered, concerns addressed, and connections made between you and the vision of SRVUMC, as that plays out both in the sanctuary and in the world.

Rummage Sale Success!



Despite the many challenges of construction, publicity glitches and blustery weather, this year's United Methodist Women's (UMC) Rummage Sale on Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5 produced some very positive results! Happily, our church received benefits in three areas:

1. **Over 70 volunteers** (including 43 women, 15 men and 12 youth) helped with the sale this year. Many were first-time volunteers. This was a great benefit in terms of fellowship and working together.
2. **The sale offered free shopping to many local missions** including our preschool, Trinity Center, Bay Area Crisis Nursery, Haiti Project, Guatemala Project, Lincoln Child Center and two other Methodist churches who have a project they support. This allowed us to give directly to our own community needs.
3. **The cash profit of about \$6,500.00 may yet increase** with the sale of items out on consignment.

United Methodist Women divide these profits between the Youth Fund, the church Mission Fund, and their own service projects.

A hearty thanks to all who volunteered, promoted and shopped this year!



***Main Photo:** Several rummage sale volunteers enjoying the fellowship of a shared lunch and shared effort at the 2016 UMC Women's Rummage Sale. **Behind:** Who else peeked into Rummage Sale 2016? Vilva Robinette, shown here lunching during one of her previous 55 years assisting with the Sale! Although she wasn't among this year's 70 hardworking volunteers, she did pop in to say hello and lend some moral support.*

The Great Decisions of Our Age

What are the great global decisions facing the U.S.? Starting on Sunday, April 10 at 10:20 a.m. in Wesley Center, our church will hold a series of six discussions on critical global issues using a guide prepared by the Foreign Affairs Association. As part of an annual, nationwide program, groups of concerned citizens throughout the U.S. will discuss why the issues are important and why we should be concerned.

The facilitator will be Lyn Arscott. We will use a written guide and a DVD. On April 17 we will have some refugees from the Mid East to help us understand the plight of refugees.

April 10: The Rise of Isis

Born out of an umbrella organization of al-Qaeda in Iraq, the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) burst onto the international stage after it conquered Fallujah in December 2013. Since then, the group has seized control of a number of critical strongholds in both countries and declared itself a caliphate. Still, the question remains: what is ISIS, and what danger does it pose to U.S. interests?

April 17: International Migration

As a record number of migrants cross the Mediterranean Sea, seeking refuge in Europe, the continent is struggling to come up with an adequate response. Although Europe's refugees are largely fleeing conflicts in Syria, Iraq and parts of Africa, their struggle is hardly unique. Today, with the number of displaced people at an all-time high, a number of world powers find themselves facing a difficult question: how can they balance border security with humanitarian concerns? More importantly, what can they do to resolve these crises to limit the number of displaced persons?

Don't forget!



Return your books to the church library!

Also, please remember to leave a checkout card, so we can help with a reminder when the three-week loan period is up.

Men's Breakfast Group

All Methodist Men are invited to Christian fellowship and a hearty breakfast on the **third Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. in Wesley Center.**



Saturday, April 16, the speaker will be **Steve Wood**, who is a member of our church and a lecturer in finance and economics at the Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley. He will talk about the state of the economy.

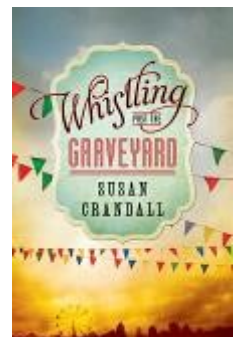
Saturday, May 21, the speaker will be **Mark Jewett**, who is a member of our church and a member of the SRV School Board. He will talk on the challenges facing the schools in our valley.

Afternoon Book Group

Monday, 1 p.m.

Room 202 Wesley Center

April 18: *Whistling Past the Graveyard* by Susan Crandall (Le leading)



Upcoming Mission Opportunities

LOCAL

Habitat for Humanity All-Faith build at Muir Ridge in Martinez, April 16, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. We will be putting the finishing touches on the first 10 homes, including painting, trim work, light finishing. Contact **Burt Rodgers** at joyceburtrogers@comcast.net.

Serve Lunch at Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco on May 22. Need 23 volunteers. Contact **Debbie Koos** at glkoos@comcast.net.

Volunteer at the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, April 2, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Contact **Lee Rust**, chijocol@aol.com, or 925-820-9047.



California Mission Project: We will travel to Weed, California (near Mt. Shasta) to help rebuild from the 2014 Boles Fire. We will carpool to the area on Saturday, June 25 and return on Thursday, June 30. Check our website or contact **Larry Pasquale**, 640-8799, larry_pasquale@hotmail.com.

Habitat for Humanity 30th Anniversary Build-A-Thon, June 17 to 21. Join us in celebrating 30 years of serving the community. Hundreds of volunteers will come together to build six homes at our Muir Ridge development in Martinez. More details to come!



WORLD

Haiti Mission Trips: March 10 to 18, March 19 to 25, and sometime in August. Contact **Warren McGuffin** for more information, warren@mcguffin.com.

UMVIM Medical Trip to Guatemala, July 22 to 31. UMVIM is once again forming a medical mission trip to Guatemala. Both medical (physicians, nurses, pharmacists and nutritionists) and non-medical volunteers are needed. Cost is \$1800 including airfare, hotel and meals. We need soft-sided suitcases with wheels to carry medical supplies. Please drop them at the church office. Contact **Paul Kuelz**, paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net.

Refugee Resettlement Task Force

There are more than 50 million displaced people in the world as a result of global conflict. In particular, the reports of the suffering of the Syrian refugees is heart wrenching. Recently, Catholic Charities of East Bay has been holding well-attended lectures on the U.S. resettlement process. In January, Ron's sermon series spoke about Exile and Homecoming. In February, church members were invited to a Fireside discussion at the home of David and Liz Bayat on "Why Refugees have a Right to be Protected." More recently, members of five local church communities, who form our local Methodist Circuit, have gathered together to form the Refugee Resettlement Task Force. Liz Bayat is the Chairperson on this task force.

This initiative is designed to support the resettlement of refugee families in the East Bay through monetary and volunteer support. Please look throughout the month of April at bulletin and *Messenger* information, sermons, educational events and fundraisers, all in support of this important initiative. The five churches have a goal of \$8,000, of which SRVUMC would like to collect \$2,500 from donations. We have opened a special account under our Missions program to receive your tax deductible donations. ***Please write your check to SRVUMC, memo "Refugees."***

If you have questions in the meantime, please feel free to call or email **Liz Bayat** at lbayat@aol.com 925-487-9693.

Volunteer Spotlight: The SodBusters

About six years ago, as church was looking for ways of saving money, the annual expenditure on paid landscape services made an appealing target. Several members thought, why not do it ourselves? SodBusters was born of that discussion about trimming budget. Charter SodBusters members included Jim Burk, Rudy Ceragioli, Chuck Clark, Dave Coombs, Jess Erickson, Ivan Kerr, Jim McKnight and Jerry Ricker. Their combined volunteer efforts save SRVUMC thousands of dollars annually in grounds keeping costs.

Together, SodBusters volunteers spend 1.5 to 2.5 hours each Friday morning mowing, edging, blowing leaves or raking, weeding, pruning and fertilizing. Many members have favorite tasks. For example, Dave Coombs pulls weeds and maintains roses, while Richard Carter serves as the group's arborist.

Current members are organized into teams, and they include: Richard Carter, Dave Coombs, Steve Garnick, Richard Hsu, Stuart Kirby, Harry Knapp, Paul Kuelz, Beth McClelland, Jim McKnight, Mark Miller, Jerry Ricker, Burt Rodgers, Rob Rudow, Joe Samford, Tom Sepull, Gary Swanson, James Tefft and Bob Tulk. Bruce Fitch also joins in the work on many Fridays.



According to Gary Swanson, who contributed most of the information for this article, SodBusters would gratefully receive new volunteers. No experience required, and he jokes, no Thursday night practices! If an outdoor opportunity for fellowship appeals to you, contact Gary Swanson at garyswanson811@gmail.com.



A Perfect Storm

Dear SRVUMC Congregation Members and Friends,

Our "Perfect Storm", of course, includes rains for the coming weeks. When we add our new construction and the limited available parking, and further add our Easter season with increased Sunday attendance, one might conclude "WE REALLY HAVE A PROBLEM!"

But, our problem produces opportunities regarding transportation for Sunday services. Thank you to the several members and friends who have relieved parking congestion by joining **carpools**, and thank you also to those who have parked at Hap Magee Park and along La Gonda, and then **walked to church**. Here is another method to consider for providing relief:

For those driving solo or with one other, would you swing by Hap Magee Park and give a ride to and from church to members and friends? The idea is to pick-up anyone waiting. There is no need to wait more than a moment or two. Also, if you see persons walking to and from, give them a lift. You save someone from getting drenched, and that someone just might become a great friend after your initial meeting?

Jerry Ricker
925-382-2862

What Does the Parking Lot Actually Look Like?

If it's been a while since you were last on the church campus, or you haven't really looked since starting to park at Hap Magee, then you might wonder if the parking lot is really that torn up. The short answer: yep. When all is said and done, however, we're going to have a wonderful facility in the ARC building, and we should be excited about the project. Check out these photos, showing some of the progress since breaking ground.



Thanks to Marla Schleicher for these photos of ARC construction in progress!

Easter Offering

The Habitat for Humanity of East Bay/Silicon Valley Playhouse Program generates revenue for the construction of Habitat EB/SV homes. Sponsoring groups make a donation and recruit volunteers to work together on the enjoyable project of constructing a playhouse. The finished playhouse is donated to individual families or to organizations serving children. Several SRVUMC members already know the joy of building and decorating these great playhouses!

Stop Hunger Now is another organization SRVUMC members already know well, with pack-out events held here previously. Since its founding in 1998, Stop Hunger Now has provided over 225 million meals in 73 countries. Part of their success comes from pack-outs like the ones held here, when 40 or 50 volunteers can package over 10,000 nutritious meals in just a couple of hours. These meals are distributed by partner organizations in developing countries. However, Stop Hunger Now also needs cash donations to provide grants and continue operations, which our Easter offering will support.



Contra Costa Interfaith Housing serves nearly 1,000 East Bay clients in need of affordable, permanent housing in Pleasant Hill, Bay Point, Concord and Pittsburg. Together, a number of service groups, individuals and faith communities are working to end homelessness and poverty in the East Bay.

Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County consists of 107 congregations and organizations of various faiths, including Jewish, Buddhist, Islamic and Christian traditions. This group's work includes promoting immunization among the area's impoverished children through Health and Faith In Action; the Winter Nights Shelter program through the Social Justice Alliance; the Singing Messengers, who send musical teams into area nursing facilities; and outreach to youth, including incarcerated youth.

Greater Richmond Interfaith Project is an interfaith and multiracial organization dedicated to serving the region's homeless, hungry and disenfranchised. Begun in 1966, modern services range from the Souper Center for nutritious, hot meals daily and the GRIP Resource Center for showers and toiletries, mail and telephone, and emergency clothing for clients. The Family Housing Program provides emergency shelter for families with children with its 75 beds. Finally, its Families in Transition program partners with the West Contra Costa County Unified School District to assist with transport, school uniforms and school supplies for homeless, runaway, unaccompanied or foster youth.



Our congregation knows the organizations slated to receive our Easter Offering very well! ***Left:*** Volunteers for the Habitat for Humanity of East Bay/Silicon Valley Playhouse Project pose with a couple of delightful finished products. ***Right:*** Packing meals for Stop Hunger Now! This pack-out sponsored and packaged over 10,000 meals!

April Communion Offering

Your April Communion giving reaches a local organization many of us know well: this month's collection helps **Trinity Center of Walnut Creek**. Trinity Center extends a safety net of basic services to homeless or at-risk individuals in Contra Costa County.



In addition to providing a safe place off the street, Trinity Center offers their clients:

- Breakfasts and hot lunches
- Showers
- Laundry facilities
- Clothing
- Mail and phone access
- Assistance with and referrals to services and help with benefit applications

St Paul's Episcopal Church in Walnut Creek is a primary sponsor of the center, but Trinity Center is a standalone charitable organization. SRVUMC has been in partnership with Trinity Center for some time. Several people in our congregation regularly volunteer in various capacities at the Center, including in the **Food for Thought** program begun by our own Horace Crawford and Dick Lam. This month's offering will support continuation of the many programs offered at this valuable community resource. Don't forget that you can also [check out their website](#) for wish-list items for their food pantry, clothing closet and more.



Egg Hunt Thank You!

Thanks to all our Egg Hunt volunteers and donors for hundreds of eggs, pounds of candy, and lots of time to load them up!





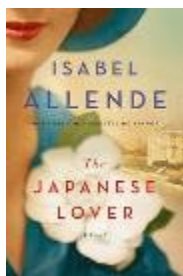
Between the Bookends



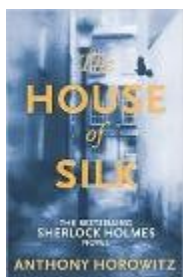
By Sally Christopherson, Librarian

Spring is finally here, with all that means — our green California hills dotted with golden poppies and yellow mustard, and in many areas of our suburban community, there'll be sightings of does with their fawns and wild turkeys strolling confidently along and across our roads. I know — those deer eat our flowers and the turkeys sometimes halt or slow down our morning commute. But no matter how much of a hurry I'm in, the sight of turkey chicks scampering after their mother makes me smile and slows me down.

New books, whether brand new, or ones I've just discovered, are just as life-renewing. Here are five titles guaranteed to entice you to stop by the Book Cart to take a look!



Allende, Isabel. *The Japanese Lover*. Allende has been labeled an “intellectual author” and yet this new novel is so readable and full of wry wit, I wonder if that label isn't too off-putting. It's the story of Alma Belasco, a Polish child shipped to her wealthy San Francisco relatives in 1939 to save her from what is sure to come. Here she is met with love and inclusion in the Belascos Sea Cliff mansion. We follow Alma as she grows up and grows old, sometimes making terrible choices, but always full of life and energy and so interesting! Yes, there was a Japanese lover...

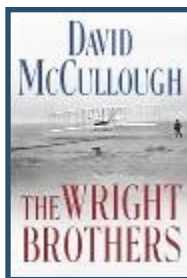


Horowitz, Anthony. *The House of Silk; A Sherlock Holmes Novel*. Anthony Horowitz is an original and acclaimed author who among other treasures, wrote the wonderful BBC television series, *Foyle's War*. Arthur Conan Doyle inspired much of his work, and when the Sherlock Holmes Society, and the Conan Doyle estate, awarded him the privilege of writing a new “Sherlock Holmes” novel, he took it as an honor and a mandate to live up to the genius of Conan Doyle. He has lived up to that challenge. Whether you're an old Holmes fan or have never read a Sherlock Holmes mystery, if you love a good mystery, here is one you will not put down.

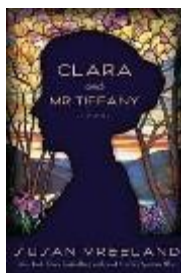


Kittle, Katrina. *The Kindness of Strangers*. I almost didn't read this book. A trusted friend, who is an avid reader, recommended it to me. This novel deals with child abuse and when I protested that I just couldn't read it, she persisted. It was masterfully written, she said, and gently and kindly dealt

with an unbearable subject. Reluctantly, I finally began to read it, and was soon caught up in a story of disbelief, love and redemption. It was well worth it.



McCullough, David. *The Wright Brothers*. David McCullough is an author and historian who has given all of us a better and clearer understanding of our America. He's done it through *Truman*, *John Adams*, *1776*, *Path Between the Seas*, and now once again, in *The Wright Brothers*. Their names are so familiar to us that few of us have realized what they have given to our country and the world of science and flying. They never went to college, they never worked on a Sunday, they always wore a suit and tie, and they never flew together until late in their experiments, so that one would always survive to carry on their work. This book reads so easily and reveals so much about these two remarkable men that I wish it were required reading for every American. Pick it up, open it to any page and read two paragraphs. I dare you to stop reading!



Vreeland, Susan. *Clara and Mr. Tiffany*. Have you ever seen and admired a Tiffany lamp? Many of those beautiful lamps and windows were designed by a woman! Louis Tiffany had a huge workshop and the men ruled the roost, but Tiffany gave Clara Driscoll in the women's division amazing freedom and power because it was she who was the finest artist in either division. Without realizing it, Clara's constant struggle for recognition put her in the forefront of what would become the women's movement for true equality. A great story!

“...the best that has been thought and felt and said awaits you... You can live for a little while in another century, in another country—all through books.

— Abigail Van Buren (Dear Abby) 1918-2013

Kindness Matters Corner



To all readers: Where do you think all of these kindness stories come from? The Internet? Nope! YouTube, newspapers, magazines? Nope! Try again. You are thinking way too big. Every story is homegrown! Every one is the story from our SRVUMC family. Each is a kindness given, a kindness received, or a kindness observed in our Tri-Valley area!

This letter was recently sent to all Kindness Korps members by a grateful member of our Church Family:

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful group you all are! Thank you so much for all you have done for me — especially these last few months. I felt very cared for and offer you my most generous thanks. From food to friendship, visits, notes, calls, even needed hardware! You all rallied 'round me and it all was such a help to me and for my sons.

Thank you is a small word, but I offer it to you all with my very grateful heart. Blessings to you all with Love,

This letter was recently received from The Bay Area Rescue Mission in Richmond, a regular recipient of our congregation's gifts, financially from Communion and special offerings, and Christmas gifts for the children:

Dear San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for your recent gift of \$1,090 to the Rescue Mission. As we begin another year providing healing and hope to members of our community here in the Bay Area, your generosity is such an encouragement to me and everyone here at the mission.

In 2016, we expect to provide more than 1,425,000 nutritious meals and over 87,300 nights of safe shelter — this is no easy task, but your support gives me confidence that in the next 12 months, thousands of men, women, and children, will receive the help they need to get back on their feet and make this year a better one than the last.

There's nothing quite as exciting as that! Thank you for creating these opportunities for life-changing transformation.

Blessings,

Rev. John M. Anderson

Executive Director

A Variation of Dinner and a Movie. A friend of our church member has established a new version of dinner and a movie. Each month he takes a young man with Down's syndrome to lunch, followed by a trip to the barber. You can't beat that — a full belly and lowered ears! What a treat!

You may directly share your stories of kindness to the website in this way: Send your story to kindness@srvumc.org. Your story will be posted to the church website within a few days.

Senior Scoop

ADVENTURESOME SENIORS POTLUCK

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!

Adventuresome Seniors Potluck – Tues., April 5 @ Noon

Program: “Downsizing for Seniors” by Nancy Benvenuto

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

Lunch with Friends is a home-cooked, sit-down meal, served in Wesley Center on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. These lunches are the friendliest place in town!

Lunch with Friends – Tues., April 19 @ Noon

Chef John Sanders will be serving stuffed pork loin, green salad, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots and apple pie – yum!

SENIOR FAITH SHARING BOOK CLUB

This session we will be reading *Being Mortal* by Dr. Atul Gawande. Pastor Ron Dunn will be facilitating the discussion. Book Club will meet in the Library after Lunch with Friends.

Senior Faith Sharing Book Club – Tues., April 19 @ 1:15 p.m.

SENIOR FIELD TRIP – SAN JOSE TECH MUSEUM – Wed., April 20

Leave the church at 9 a.m. and return 4:30 p.m. Sign up at one of the Senior Luncheons.

Communion Servers

We are looking for Communion servers to assist in this important and meaningful ritual on the first Sunday of every month. Please contact the church office to volunteer for either the 9:00 or 10:45 a.m. service.

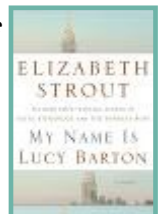


Christ Care Book Group

April 27, 10 a.m.

Church Library

The group will review and discuss *My Name is Lucy Barton* by Elizabeth Strout.



Youth, Children and Family Ministries

Calendar

April 16 to 17: 30-Hour Famine for Middle School and High School

April 24: Acolyte Training, 11:45 a.m.

Stay Tuned

May 10: Family Camp Fire

May 14: Confirmation Rehearsal

May 15: Confirmation Sunday

June 12: Graduation Sunday

July 11 to 14: Vacation Bible School, Potty-trained Three-year-olds through Grade 5

July 17 thru 23: Gleanings Mission Trip, Grades 6 to 12

July 31 thru August 6: SSP San Diego, Grades 8 to 12

Announcements

Summer Mission Trips: registration is now open!

- **Sierra Service Project**, San Diego, July 31 thru Aug 6, Cost \$360
- **Gleanings**, July 17 thru 23, Cost \$250

Registration forms available online. Contact **Luke Ham** with questions.

VBS registration is now open on our webpage.

Contact **Stephanie Ham** with questions.

Weekly Programming

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6 to 8) On Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m.

High School Youth Group (Grades 9 to 12) On Sundays from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

High School Dinner Night Out (1st and 3rd Sundays) from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See our weekly email newsletters for locations.

Contact Us!

Luke Ham

Youth Pastor (Grades 6 to 12)

lhham@srvumc.org

(925)837-5243 ext 108

Stephanie Ham

Children and Family Ministries

(Children through Grade 5)

sham@srvumc.org

(925)837-5243 ext 106

Every Sunday

9 a.m. Traditional Worship, Sunday School

K to Grade 2: Lamm Hall

Grades 3 to 5: Wesley upstairs, game room

Grades 6 to 12: Room 202

10:30 a.m. Nontraditional Worship

Confirmation meets in room 204 until 11:45 a.m.

Childcare for all ages in children's building, downstairs.

Sunday School Topics

Kindergarten to Grade 5:

Bottom Line: When life gets hard, remember God is with you.

Bottom Line: When life gets hard, remember how others persevered.

Bottom Line: When life gets hard, remember what Jesus did for you.

Bottom Line: When life gets hard, remember you can help others persevere.

Grades 6 to 12:

Session One: What's the Point?

Bottom Line: Salvation is more than a moment.

Session Two: Fact Check

Bottom Line: Base your belief on a relationship.

Music

We invite you to join our children and youth choirs. These choirs are free and open to everyone to participate.

Cherub Choir, Aimee Knese

Preschool through Grade 1

Practice Wed from 3 to 3:45 p.m.

Archangel Choir, Teri Hawk

Grades 2 to 5

Practice Wed at 3 p.m.

Youth Choir, Terri Hawk

Grades 6 to 12

Practice Sunday at 3 p.m.

Bros and Belles Choir, Winnie Stribling

Grades 6 to 12

Practice Wed from 5:15 to 6 p.m.

Among Ourselves

Health Concerns...

Barb McWilliams
Merrybell Loesel
Evelyn Garrioch
Vilva Robinett
Cary Johnson
Horace Crawford

Our Christian Sympathy To...

The family of Del Kennedy. Del died in February.

The family of Doug Hayward, an interim pastor at SRVUMC between Bill Dew and John Sublett. Doug died on February 14.

Larry Pasquale and family on the death of his mother on March 4.

The family of Roberta Blendow. Roberta died on March 5. A memorial service will be held in our sanctuary on April 4 at 1:30 p.m.

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; Gene Brown; Lenore Cooper; Jeni Evans; John Evans; Brigitte Greene; Dick Greeno; Ann Hatfield; Dave & Lillian Holleman; Cary Johnson; Johnny Johnston; Daphne Kimbell; Jada Koonce; Alleen Landstrom; Margaret Matteson; Alex Maddux; Mary Ogden; Alice Reynolds; Ethel Ricker; Mike Robinett; Ann Schroeder; Pat Shoner; Carol Webb Samford; Joan Webb.

Name Tags

Please contact Shannon Dever in the church office if you need a new name tag (\$7/ea.)

May Celebrations

Birthdays



1 Catharine Baker	Kari Mullican	Sanjiv More'	
Barbara Nicco	Charity Pelletier	19 Alice Impraim	
2 Will Davis	Sarah Pihowich	Marla Nakaso	28 Kay Jones (90)
Rich Johannessen	Abby TenElshof	20 Susan Dunn	Tom Schramm
Cheryl Morones	9 Winnie Stribling	21 Gerry Aude	Anna Templeton
3 Bruce Templeton	10 Barbara Carlson	Bob Baker	29 Jan Geahry
4 Sylvia Benzler	11 Louise Hanover	Rich Braden	30 Aksel Schmidt
Floy Blair	Will Maddux	Brian Dandridge	31 Bob Benedict
Alana Morgin	Connor Marohn	Mike Donatelli	Christa Farrow
Mike Prenger	12 Patrick Davis	Robby Kelly	
Jim Warnock	13 Brett Greene	22 Ruth Pavlik	
5 Jan Rohde	Carole Johnson	23 Gary Hickson	
Hannah Sidhom	Jim McKnight	Gary Krumrei	
Scott Smallwood	Pamela Peters	Rose Larkins	
Matt Yarmolilch	14 Saba Kanwal	25 Karen Dautel	
6 Laura Brady	15 Janelle Hawkley	Clara Malin	
Mary Jane Brusher	Greg Lowe	Thomas Mannell	
Jean Spencer (93)	Scott Ryan	Sara Wolfram	
7 Paul Knauff (91)	16 Lorry Dahl	26 Norma Jean Bunker	
8 Cherie Charbonneau	Brad Poole	Skip George	
Mitzie Dew	17 Joe Rousseu	27 Justin Farhang	
Matt Hinzle	18 John Graham	Thomas Valdriz	

Wedding Anniversaries

1 Stephanie & Jeff Leontini	18 Donna & Dave Bain	Meg & Bob Guldner	Heather & Doug Clay
4 Linda Albertoni Engman & Dave Engman	20 Rhona & Mike Sherrill	Anita Weir & Jim Ball	Lynn & Richard Dodge
5 Floy & Jerry Blair (53 rd)	21 Debra & Richard Carter	27 Lillian Baker Holleman & Dave Holleman	Stacey & Brad Judd
8 Brenda & Darren Cowdrey	22 Lisa & John Jancarik	28 Kari & Kevin Dimler	Anne & Paul Kuelz
Marty & Jerry Osborn	24 Willy & Charlie Adam	Amber & Matt Marx	Marilyn & Thomas Mathis
10 Nancy & Steve Garnick	Susan Pickering-Gest & Steve Gest	Alice & Roger Miller	
12 Lisa & Edmund Glover	Connie & Ray Winter	Barbara & Mike Nicco	
14 Angela & Tom Norton	26 Debra Brady & Steve Veglia	Karen & Scott Sanson	
17 Darlene & Dick Greeno		30 Christy & Bruce Campbell	