



The Valley Messenger

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

NOVEMBER 2016

A Parsonal Point of View ~ Being Thankful for Children in Our Midst

As you know, November is the month that we set some time apart to be thankful for everything we have. And as I think about all the gifts that our congregation has, the presence of children is no doubt one of the greatest.

We know that children are not always the cleanest or the quietest in church. They are not always the most focused. But as Jesus reminded his disciples, it is when we becoming childlike that we see the Kingdom of God, and when we welcome a child, we welcome Christ.

In her poem “Balloons Belong in Church,” Ann Weems shares

*I celebrate children
who laugh out loud
who walk in the mud and dawdle in the puddles
who put chocolate fingers anywhere
who like to be tickled
who scribble in church
who whisper in loud voices
who sing in louder voices
who run...and laugh when they fall
who cry at the top of their lungs
who cover themselves with Band-Aids
who squeeze the toothpaste all over the bathroom
who slurp their soup
who chew cough drops
who ask questions
who give us sticky, paste-covered creations
who want their picture taken
who won't use their napkins
who bury goldfish, sleep with the dog, scream at their best friend
who hug us in a hurry and rush outside without their hats.
I celebrate children*

Through our inclusion our new children's moment in worship, the work that is being completed on our new “Tot Spot” in Lamm Hall, and the addition of Tawfick in the youth department, SRVUMC is making a dedicated effort to offer radical hospitality to children and their families. While

there are far too many individuals to thank by name, I want to express my appreciation to all those on the committees that make these efforts possible. I also want to thank all of those who volunteer their time and who give financially to support our programming to the Youth and Children of this community.

As Thanksgiving approaches, may we continue to be grateful for all of the children (and adults who are young at heart) in our midst.

Blessings,

Luke

Don't Miss What's Inside

- 1 PPV: Being Thankful for Children in Our Midst
- 3 Church Council Q & A, Part 3
- 4 CROP Walk
- 5 Upcoming Mission Opportunities
- 7 Mission Sunday 2016—A Huge Success!
- 8 November Communion Offering
- 10 News from the Preschool
- 11 Kindness Matters
- 12 Intergenerational Senior Update
- 13 Youth, Children and Family Ministries
- 14 Among Ourselves
- 15 Birthdays & Anniversaries

Next Issue: December 2016

Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik

SRVUMC

902 Danville Blvd
Alamo, CA 94507

Office Hours:

8:30 a.m.-12, 1-4:30 p.m.

Phone

(925) 837-5243

Fax

(925) 837-7263

Web site

www.srvumc.org

Ministers

EVERYONE

Lead Pastor

Ron Dunn (ext. 107)

Associate Pastor

Luke Ham (ext. 108)

Youth Director

Tawfick Fayed

Director of Children's Ministries

Stephanie Ham (ext 106)

Office Administrator,

Membership,

Accounts Receivable

Shannon Dever (ext 105)

Finance Administrator

Accounts Payable

Coreen Janes (ext 104)

Facilities & Purchasing Manager

Marilyn Clarke (ext 102)

Music Director

Bruce Koliha

Organist

Nadia Blank-Koliha

U.M. Preschool Director

Paulette Ove (ext 113)

Communications Director

Linda Green

Director Membership & Mission

Kathleen Saghafi (ext 110)

Messenger Editor

Lisa Jancarik

newsletter@srvumc.org

9th Annual San Ramon Valley UMC

Harvest Festival and Boutique

Saturday, November 5, 2016, 9:00 to 3:00

902 Danville Blvd., Alamo

- Shop for everyone on your list!
- Quality handcrafts by local artists
- Unbeatable DEALS!
- Support the SRVUMC Youth Bake Sale

Fabulous \$5 lunch deal at the Harvest Café

- Homemade soups & sandwiches
- Delicious homemade pies



SRVUMC Women's Retreat 2017

**Friday evening, February 3 through lunch Sunday, February 5,
2017**

Led by Faye Orton Snyder

Theme: Betty's Diner



Betty's Diner is a 24/7 place where people come to share their stories. It has a strong hospitality theme. A facet of the message is that, when we know a person's story, we cannot help but love that person. The Bible scripture Faye will use is John 4, the woman at the well.

Fees: \$270 for a double room, \$315 for a single room

Registration Dates: Sunday, November 6 and November 13 at 10:15 in Wesley Center. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and is not complete until we have your check. We regret we cannot "hold" a room for you until a later payment. A check is required to complete registration. ***Make your check out to: SRVUMC.***

Do not make a check out until your registration form is accepted on Registration Day!

Cancellation with refund deadline: December 15 (on or after December 16, women should find a replacement or consider donating their registration fee for a scholarship).

Scholarships: A \$5 scholarship donation will be welcomed by all who would like to participate. Please let the registration desk know if you would like to attend but would appreciate financial assistance. ***We will also have printed forms available in the Narthex.***

Church Council Q & A

Continued from the Series Begun in the September 2016 Newsletter

What happened to the members and their committees who were on the Administrative Board but were not included on the Church Council?

The committees, groups, their Chairs and leaders continue in existence and of vital importance to the Church. The Council continues to request their input, and they are invited to attend Council meetings to participate in discussions. They may be requested from time to time to report on their activities. This applies also to the Lay Members of Annual Conference.

When and where are Council meetings held?

Regular Council meetings are currently scheduled on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room. The schedule is subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances. Every effort will be made to inform Council members and the congregation of such a change in a timely manner.

The Council may also call Special meetings from time to time, as warranted.

Notices of Regular and Special Council meetings will be published in the Mini Messenger, the *Valley Messenger* if time permits, and on the Church website.

Who may attend Council meetings?

Regular and Special meetings of the Council are open to all members and constituents of the congregation.

Who may vote at Council meetings?

Only laity members of the Council or their proxies may vote.

Proxies?

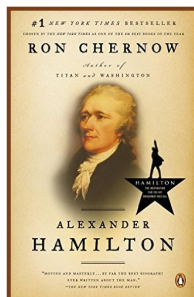
Each Council member who chairs or co-chairs a Committee or leads a Practice Group may appoint a proxy to attend Council meetings in the member's absence. Co-Lay Leaders may designate each other as proxies. The Council Chair may designate the Vice Chair, and vice versa, as proxy.

Christ Care Book Group

We will NOT meet in November or December.

We will meet **January 25, 2017**, after reading:

Hamilton by Ron Chernow



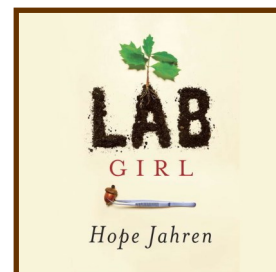
Afternoon Book Group

Monday, November 21, 1 p.m.

Rm. 202 Wesley Center

Lab Girl by Hope Jahren

Nancy leading)



Once upon a time, on a windy and stormy day, good people of every gender, every age, every race, once again called attention to the plight of others on our earth. This event was just another of incalculable numbers that transpire every day, everywhere around our globe. This story is...

Following Sunday service, October 16, walkers took their faith and love outside the sanctuary. Aware the weather was stormy as rain bounced off the sanctuary roof, contributing quiet background rhythm to Pastor Ron's message, walkers donned their rain gear. At the end of the service, one could almost feel the words, "Rain? No big deal, I've made a commitment to the Crop Hunger Walk!"



Our dozen walkers, bolstered by the financial contributions of many others in our congregation, met at Walnut Creek's Civic Park gazebo. Colorful umbrellas and rain coats complemented the plush green grass, giving a scene one might view as impressionist art. We joined representatives from six other churches in our area, bringing us up to 50 to 60 walkers. Following introductions, individuals walked with friends and made new friends for the 2- or 3-mile walk in downtown Walnut Creek.

Our walkers were dazzling as they carried large poster signs, signs with meaningful words to live by, colorful signs, and creative signs. Thank you, kids of our youth program, for spending one of your nights creating these just for us. Great job!



Rain splashed off our umbrellas and raincoat hoods throughout the walk. And shoes? Forget about it, they were soaked in the gutter run-off at the first street crossing! One of our walkers stepped in water up to her ankle, and then she stepped back, and plunged in again! Why? She replied, "Heck, I may as well even it up!"

It was a happy group, happy to be together, to be doing for others, showing the community we cared, maybe causing the onlookers to ask themselves, "Maybe I ought do more." The rain somehow added happiness, even when a small stream of water flowing off a canopy fell on someone's head and rolled down their back under a shirt! Brrrr! One walker expressed the thoughts of many, when he remarked, "This rain and weather will make this day a lasting memory!"

Our donations were **\$700** from our team. **Twenty-five percent of those donations go directly to Winter Nights**, a program we have supported for several years. The Crop Hunger Walks began following World War II when our nation's farms produced an abundance of crops, and Europe, Africa, and Asia were starving. Now Church World Services coordinates about 1,100 walks nationwide (ours was one), donations amount to \$10-12M a year. Donations are used to provide support for needy peoples in the world by, distribution of food/water; improvements and resources to develop self-sufficiency; disaster emergency response; and refugee resettlement.

And so, God thanked the walkers and donors for their time and treasure on this walk. These are the persons in this world who love and care, who look for ways to assist the disadvantaged, the hungry, the thirsty. These people's hope is that through their giving and loving, they may give hope to others who live with hopelessness.

The End...Goodnight children, I love you.

You may read more about the Crop Hunger Walk and donations can still be made at: www.crophungerwalk.org/walnutcreekca

Our Mission Council arranged this event. To learn more about this walk and the program, please contact, John Green, bubalegs@comcast.net, (925) 837-9419.

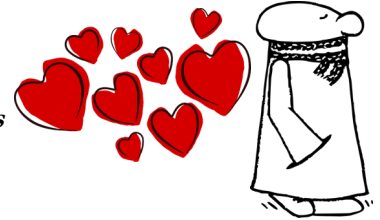
Upcoming Mission Opportunities

LOCAL

Warm Winters (www.warm-winters.org) is preparing for their second annual **Holiday Spruce Up Event**. This year, the event will be held at the **Concord Emergency Shelter on November 14**, and they expect to have 120 homeless community members in attendance. They have a dream team of hair stylists from Stem Salon in Walnut Creek coming, and they will provide haircuts and shaves to the guests. They will also have large tables filled with coats and sweatshirts for the guests. Goodie bags filled with new socks, underwear, bras for the ladies, and toiletries will also be handed out.



SRVUMC will be helping out with this event by collecting both **Men's and Women's Adult-size Gently Used Coats** to be given to our local homeless this Holiday Season. ***Donations can be dropped off at SRVUMC between now and November 6 in boxes located in the church narthex and Wesley Center.***



We have the privilege to host **Winter Nights 2017** from **January 30 through February 13, 2017**. During our two-week period, we will split our time with St. Isadore's Parish to provide for the daily requirements for the program.

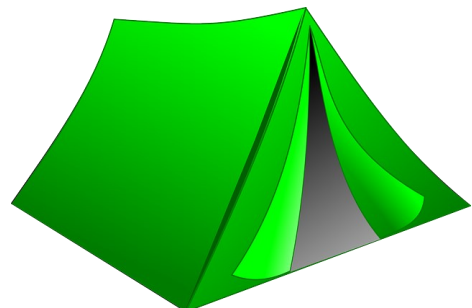
We will need people to:

- Host overnight
- Manage laundry
- Handle shopping
- Pick up food donations
- Coordinate fun activities for kids and adults
- Tutor school children
- Manage site and kitchen activities
- Provide meals for the group

If you would like to volunteer to help or to donate to this effort, please contact Susan Dowling at sue_dowling@comcast.net or 925-648-5184.

Winter Nights needs donations of:

- Diapers of all sizes
- Gas cards
- Wal-Mart or Target Gift cards
- Deodorant
- Lysol or Clorox wipes
- Socks of all sizes
- Baby wipes,
- Flashlights and extra batteries of all sizes



Upcoming Mission Opportunities

WORLD

Guatemala City and Antigua Mission to Distribute Wheelchairs—January 23 through 29, 2017. We have sent the Wheelchair Foundation payment for 110 wheelchairs, or one small container load. SRVUMC, Asbury UMC and the Foundation made the decision that Guatemala would greatly benefit from these wheelchairs. Contact **Paul Kuelz** for more information at paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net or call 925-831-3128.



Estate Planning Thoughts from the Endowment Committee

Some people have accrued a sizable sum in tax-deferred retirement accounts. These accounts provide a comfortable back up for pension income. However, there are some disadvantages when you withdraw funds from these accounts. Upon death, state and federal taxes must be paid on the funds. Also, as individuals exceed 70.5 years in age, a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) tax must be paid on the income. This income, added to regular pension income, can push the income into a higher tax bracket.

Congress has made permanent a rule that permits a donation from the deferred account to an approved charitable organization (maximum \$100,000). Such a gift can cover all or a major portion of the RMD. This provides several benefits. The RMD income is not added to your gross income, the amount in your IRA is reduced for later taxes, no taxes are due for the donated RMD funds and you have enabled a charitable organization to extend its services.



You may want to discuss this possible gift with your tax advisor.

Calling All Angels



Our annual Angel Tree program kicks off on November 13th and runs through Sunday December 4th. Christmas trees will be decorated in the Narthex with gift requests for you to choose from. Each card's request has been given to us by one of the seven agencies our church will be helping this year. Although it may seem early to be undertaking this project, the shopping and distribution must be done by early December so gifts can be distributed in a timely manner.

This Christmas program has been a very successful outreach mission project for many years. The seven agencies our church will be assisting this year are: STAND! For Families Free of Violence, Bay Area Rescue Mission, Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Family Services, East Salinas Family Center and Life Program, Mt Diablo Unified School

District Outreach, the Fred Finch Youth Center, and Family Giving Tree. Thank you for keeping the Angel Tree needs in mind as you plan for Christmas this year. For questions contact: Marla Schleicher, Linda Green, or Beth McClelland.

Mission Sunday 2016—A Huge Success!

If you were one of the 131 participants over the three days, you know exactly what I am talking about. The volunteer celebration kicked off on Saturday, September 17, when nine volunteers travelled to **Sunrise Assisted Living in Danville** to sing to 30 residents. On the following day, Mission Sunday, we had 84 volunteers pack over 15,000 meals for **Stop Hunger Now!** and 20 volunteers for the **Habitat For Humanity Playhouse Build**. After completing the painting and building of the two playhouses, the families arrived to be presented with their houses. Both recipients were families of Blue Star Moms. I received positive feedback of having the opportunities immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service. The “Moment for Mission” during the service on September 25 focused on these two events. If that wasn’t enough, on September 24, 18 volunteers sorted food at the **Food Bank of Contra Costa/Solano Counties**. In the two hours at the Food Bank, the volunteers sorted and packed 3,268 pounds of food which they say translates to 2,723 meals. Great job!! Congratulations on a job well done! I not only want to thank everyone who volunteered and made the weeklong event a success, but I also want to thank everyone who donated monetarily. Without the donations, totaling nearly \$10,000, this day could not have occurred. Blessings to all. —Paul Kuelz



The volunteers at the Food Bank of Contra Costa/Solano Counties sort and pack over 3,200 lbs. of food in two hours.



An action shot at the food bank: to handle that much food in only two hours, everyone keeps moving!



The Habitat for Humanity Playhouse Build made a fun part of Mission Sunday once again. Themes requested by recipient families for this year’s playhouses: “Under the Sea” and “Dinosaur Treehouse.”



Stop Hunger Now! gave participants of all ages an energetic activity. Gongs rang each time the group packed 1,000 meals, and music played throughout.

November Communion Offering

Your November Communion giving helps Trinity Center of Walnut Creek offer a safety net of basic services to homeless or at-risk individuals in Contra Costa County. **Specifically, this month's offering supports the Trinity Center's operations at the Walnut Creek Armory, located near Civic Park.**



The Evening Program at the Armory will house 30 to 50 people. A donation of \$200 houses one person for one month, according to the [Trinity Center website](#).

Last June, the Trinity Center proposed entering into a five-month license with the State Military Department for use of the Armory as a temporary homeless shelter between November 12, 2016, and March 31, 2017. The total estimated cost of operation for the Armory location is \$170,000. The Trinity Center website reports that the organization must raise \$70,000 to meet costs (the rest is expected to come from other funding, including from the city of Walnut Creek itself). The Armory makes a desirable space for this kind of program because it features outside gates and expansive indoor space rather than scattered church buildings.

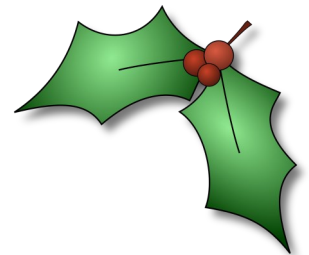
According to a report in [The Mercury News](#) in July, Trinity Center's plans for the Armory this winter are bigger than last year's: 120 days instead of 90 days, and taking in up to 50 people (up from 30 last year). The center will open at 6 p.m. each evening and close for the morning at 7 a.m. The people who make use of this program will be fully vetted by the Trinity Center and won't have in-out privileges.

Remember: your donation goes where the envelope tells us to put it!

If you put your pledge into the Communion envelope, it will go to the organization designated to receive the offering that month, and it isn't possible to get it back.



Holidays are very special at Trinity Center. We provide the warmth and giving of a family to those in need! Make these dates for special volunteer opportunities part of your own family's traditions:



- **November 24, Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Parish Hall;** Prepare and serve Thanksgiving meal to 100+ homeless and working poor from 1 to 3 p.m. Come help and stay for the meal!
- **December 22, Holiday Party at St. Paul's Parish Hall;** From 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.; Light refreshments and gift exchange; Setup and clean up
- **December 30, New Year's Eve Brunch at Fellowship House at St. Paul's;** From 10:30 a.m. to noon; Cook, serve and clean up; Help provide food/snack bags to take away for the holidays.



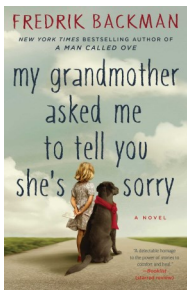


Between the Bookends

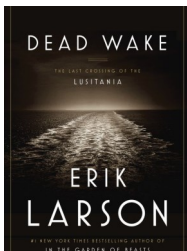


By Sally Christopherson, Librarian

We read for so many different reasons—to reminisce, to be delighted, to laugh, to wonder. And always, whether you mean to or not—you can hardly read anything without learning something. Facts cross over. Reading Eric Larson’s gripping story of the German U-boat commanders in WWI will give you new respect for American men manning our submarines today. Reading Irene Nemirovsky’s words written in a small French village as she watched the Nazi progression through France, you’ll feel despair and hope and admiration for the human spirit. Read on:



Backman, Fredrik. *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry*. Here’s the same writer who gave us *A Man Called Ove* with a new and very different story. Fantastical, with some over-the-top characters. Is it your cup of tea? You won’t know until you try it!



Larson, Eric. *Dead Wake; the Last Crossing of the Lusitania*. Larson is an author who keeps rolling out bestsellers (*Devil in the White City*, *In the Garden of Beasts*). In 1915, the Lusitania was the biggest and fastest passenger ship in the world and thought to be almost unsinkable. Sound familiar? WWI was already raging and Germany was experimenting with a new kind of warfare—submarines, the deadly U-boats. While cargo ships were being targeted, no one ever thought passenger ships would be. That all changed when the Lusitania came into the sights of an ambitious U-boat commander who saw his chance—and took it. Larson’s latest book is full of the human stories and small details that bring history alive.



Nemirovsky, Irene. *Suite Française; a Novel*. This is actually two novellas, written by a Russian Jew who had lived most of her life in Paris and converted to Catholicism. She was a marked woman in Petain’s Vichy France and was sent to and died in Auschwitz. However, friends hid her two little girls, and they survived the war, and with them, their mother’s notes for this book. It is interesting because it describes what was happening in Nazi-run France, but is truly a novel and much more than a journal. Her daughter, Denise, did not read and appreciate the fragile pages until fifty years later, and this book is the result.



Reichl, Ruth. *Delicious! a Novel*. Much as musicians with perfect pitch are the wonders of the music world, there are chefs and food critics with a palate that can detect and identify subtle flavors and tastes in food and wine. Ruth Reichl was such a person who delighted the food world with her witty and on-the-mark restaurant reviews in the New York Times. She was also, for a time, an editor at *Gourmet* magazine, and her books and memoirs about her life as a “foodie” have all been bestsellers. This is her first novel about that world and it doesn’t disappoint!

The holidays are coming! Watch the Book Cart for holiday-themed books and *Ideal* magazine issues. There’ll also be a few Thanksgiving books to share with children and grandchildren!

Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

—Henry Peter Brougham, 1778-1868

Greetings from the Preschool!

We were thrilled to begin the 2016-2017 school year with a remodeled Preschool. Hard work pays off!! The cost of the project was covered entirely by the Preschool, so we are truly enjoying the “fruits of our labor.” We would like to send a big thank you to **Devon Drake** for the project design, and a number of volunteers who helped assemble IKEA cupboards and other items in the office—namely **Brian Roberts, Boyd Hasik, Winnie Stribling, and Rhonda Poole**. Please wander over to the preschool office and take a look.

Fall is upon us, and it is one of our favorite times at UMP because of our annual Apple Pie Night and the Halloween Parade. These events are fun for the whole family, and we enjoy meeting siblings and grandparents of our UMP children.

The ***Fruit of the Spirit*** theme for the month of October was ***Goodness***. We use the symbol of an apple pie to help children relate to the idea of “goodness.” We reinforce the message that goodness lies not only outside of ourselves, but it is within each of us. And it is our responsibility to share our goodness everyday with each other.

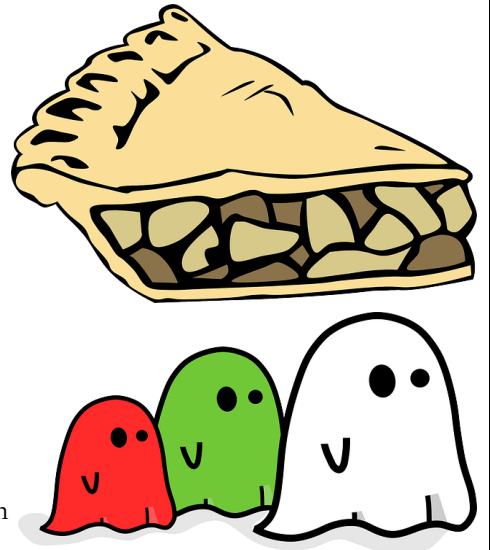
At the end of the month, we enjoyed a Halloween Parade. Following our parade, SRVUMC’s Adventuresome Seniors treated our children and parents to a sit-down lunch.

There is always a happy bustle in the air at the Preschool—even more so due to our increased student enrollment this year. In case you were not aware, last spring UMP was authorized an increase in License Capacity to 50 students per day. For the 2016-2017 school year, we are fully enrolled and enjoying the vibrancy of our school. The teaching staff and office administrator could not be better, and we count our blessing each day that we have been called to do this important and enjoyable work.

Sincerely,

Paulette Ove

UMP Director

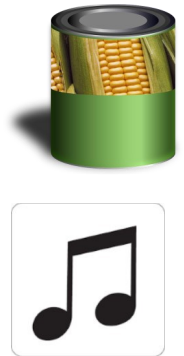


ISRV Intrafaith Thanksgiving Eve Service

The annual Intrafaith Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held this year at **St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 2601 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, San Ramon**. The service beginning at **7:00 p.m.** will feature a guest speaker (to be announced), a children’s time and reading/comments from various faith groups. Also included for the first time this year will be a choir with singers from various faiths.

Participants are requested to bring nonperishable food items to be donated to the **Food Bank** and a free will offering will be collected with the proceeds going to **Shelter, Inc.**

If interested in singing with the intrafaith choir, two practices will be held from 4:30 to 5:45 at St. Joan’s on November 6 and 20.



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!

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.

Gen 1:28. *God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”*

Our congregation member relates his participation with others as they experience living the Word, caring for every living thing that moves upon the earth.

Just a Normal Day. I was heading south on San Ramon Valley Boulevard one morning. Traffic was heavy in both directions on the stretch south of Alamo. Suddenly a woman in the car in front of me hit her brakes and swerved to the right shoulder of the road. As she swerved, I could see why. There, in the middle of the road, lay two raccoons, one large and the other a juvenile. Both had been hit when they had tried to cross the road. I stopped in the street, got out, and held up traffic behind me.

The large raccoon was still, dead. The smaller one was trying to get up, but fell each time it tried. The woman was out of her car, and she knelt down by the small raccoon and began to speak to it with words of comfort. Then she ever-so-gently lifted the small raccoon and carried it to the shoulder and laid it down.

I pulled forward and off the pavement behind her car, and got out. Someone on the other side of the road stopped, got out, and carried the large raccoon to the other side of the road. Traffic proceeded.

Two bicyclists stopped, and another young woman appeared. So there we were, the woman driver, two bicyclists, a young woman, and me, the old guy in a pick-up. You might say we were an EMT unit from a veterinary clinic. As we began calling County Animal Control, a police motorcycle officer stopped, and he took over calling for help on his radio.

By now, the little raccoon seemed to be getting worse, no longer trying to get up. The young woman felt its neck for a pulse and checked for breathing. She stated that the little fellow was in shock, with a very fast heartbeat. She demonstrated real skill with animals, and stated it looked as if only one front paw was visibly injured, but perhaps its head had also been hit. The officer shouted to the group of us that he had contacted the animal control and that a truck would be coming in about an hour. The young woman jumped to her feet and shouted to the patrolman, “Officer, this little guy doesn’t have an hour! We must get him to a vet’s office right now.”

The younger woman scooped the little raccoon up in her arms and got into the back seat of the other woman’s car. The motorcycle officer was now off his motorcycle, went to the center of the street, and held up traffic in both directions to allow the car to make a U-turn. The two women and the injured little animal were last seen speeding toward the Veterinary Clinic in Alamo.

The rest of us got back into our vehicles, and went about our day. I have remembered this event for several years as an act of kindness by a group of strangers who came together to help one of God’s little creatures, just as God had instructed us.

“No act of kindness, however small, is wasted.” —Aesop

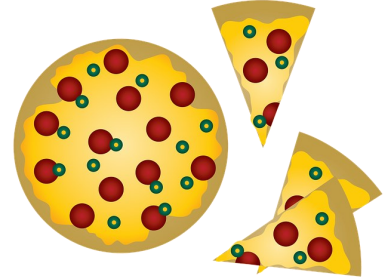
Intergenerational

Senior Update for November

As we head into the holiday season, please join us for lots of fun, good food and social opportunities!

Lunch with Friends—Tues., November 15 @ Noon in Wesley Center

OK, no restaurant-style meal this month! Chef John Sanders is cruising the world, so we are doing a pizza party—purely social! Fresh cooked pizza and fun conversation with friends! \$5 donation if possible.



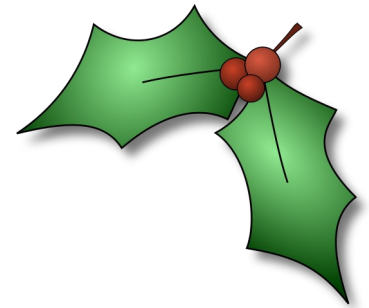
FIELD TRIP—Tues., December 6—Glass House Visit

We will have a docent-led tour of the Glass House in San Ramon. The Glass Family was among the first settlers in the San Ramon Valley and built the lovely white “mansion” you see just west of San Ramon Valley Blvd/I-680. We will then meet at a San Ramon restaurant for lunch. Details to come.

HOLIDAY LUNCH—Tuesday, December 13 @ Noon in Wesley Center

Please join us for our classic, traditional Holiday luncheon. RSVP is requested as we typically have a much bigger crowd for this event and need to know how many full holiday meals we need to make.

Please RSVP to nancy@Nancybenvenuto.com, or the Church office.



Thanksgiving Multi-faith Celebration and Service

Sunday, November 20 at 4:00 p.m.

Temple Isiah, 945 Risa Rd, Lafayette

- Find Inspiration
- Share Gratitude for Abundance
- Commit to Confronting Poverty

Gather in Community

Faith leaders from across the county

Multi-faith Choir

Led by Joyce Pricco, St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

FOOD DRIVE: *Help feed the hungry by bringing non-perishable food items to the service as an offering!*





ANNOUNCEMENTS

During the **November 5 Harvest Fair**, the youth will be holding a bake sale to raise money for some of their activities in the coming months.

Living Nativity sign-ups will be taking place in the courtyard on certain Sundays. We will be searching for actors, setup/breakdown crew and other positions.

Save the date for the **Disneyland** trip **February 17-20** for **grades 6-12**.

SUNDAYS FOR FAMILIES

Children in Pre-K through Grade 5 gather in the Sanctuary and start Sunday school following the children's moment.

9 a.m. Traditional Worship

SUNDAY SCHOOL pick up locations:

K -2, children's building, upstairs

Grades 3-5 Room 203

Grades 6-12 Room 206

10:45 a.m. Nontraditional Worship

Childcare during all services in children's building, downstairs.

WEEKLY PROGRAMMING

Middle School Youth Group

WEDNESDAYS 6 to 8 p.m.

High School Youth Group

SUNDAYS 4 to 5:30 p.m.

High School Dinner Out

1st and 3rd THURSDAYS At 6:30 p.m.

CONTACT US!

TAWFICK FAYED (Grades 6-12)

TFAYED@srvumc.org

Stephanie Ham (Birth through Grade 5)

sham@srvumc.org

www.srvumc.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Elementary topic: Honor

WEEK 1 Bottom Line: Honor others by giving them a chance.

WEEK 2 Bottom Line: Honor others by putting them first.

WEEK 3 Bottom Line: Honor others by keeping your promises.

WEEK 4 Bottom Line: Honor God by giving Him credit.

Grades 6-12

Sunday School in November will be "Upside Down," which is a three-week series which teaches when we choose to live like Jesus did, we put others first, we love our enemies, and we help others even when it's uncomfortable.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS

CHERUB/ Wednesday 3-3:45 p.m.

Pre-K through Grade 1

ARCHANGEL/ Wednesday 3:30-4:15 p.m.

Grades 2-5

BROS & BELLES/ Wednesday 5-6 p.m.

Grades 6-8

YOUTH/ Thursday 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Grades 6-12

Among Ourselves

Health Concerns...

Bruce Benzler	Edith Liggett
Lyn Bristow	Lillian Baker-Holleman
Nancy Sabin	Barbara Brick
Mary Ellen Brown	Gene Brown
Sharleen Keen	Gail Soldavini
Gene Benedict	
Joe Samford	
Susie McKnight	

Our Sympathy to . . .

Amy Parnes & Wade Bickel on the death of Wade's father in Southern California.

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; Mike Robinett; Lillian Scherer; Ann Schroeder; Pat Shoner; Jean Spencer; Carol Webb	Samford; Joan Webb; Jeanine Woolery.
--	--------------------------------------

Name Tags

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

November Celebrations

Birthdays



1 Jacque Foster	Charlene Tallett (92)	17 Kyle McFarland	
Rob Rudow	Lara Mays	18 John Coombs	
Brad Tolstedt	Katie Wong	Kelly Finney	Dana Takiguchi
Connie Winter	10 Natty Oberhauser-Lim	Skipper George	25 Mike Henderson
2 Molly Huff	Gay Scott	John Green	26 Monica Albertoni
Daphne Kimbell	Susie Steele	Bob Knowles	Ryan Howard
Kate Kocins	11 Mary Nelson	Charlotte Speck	Jessica Merchant
Julia Morgin	12 Julie Dastic	19 Evelyn Garrioch (95)	Eric Newburn
Kristin Schleicher	Heather Hammer	Caitlyn Shaw	Rachell Newburn
Marge Wood	Melissa Lotz	Gerard Takiguchi	Elise Norrid
3 Sally Christopherson	13 Sandy Greenwood	20 Mandy George	Hannah Norrid
Joey Gallo	Mark Jewett	Kelsey Grossman	Annemarie Warwick
Jo Ann Hirsch	Dick Lam	Katie Turley	27 Margo Cefalo
Sara Markley	14 Felicia Hillard	21 Connor Finney	Todd Christian
Myla Niederauer	Suzan Rowland	Steve Hawk	Steve Koepp
LaVena White	Steve Wilkens	22 Deb Bandy	29 Brad Hawthorne
4 Corinne Cooper	15 Tim Hickman	Emily Caporale	Paul Kuelz
Nicole Cooper	Karina Marsh	Mary Nygreen (94)	Hal Lyons
5 Gemma Heddle Sepull	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 (95)	George Nelson

Wedding Anniversaries

1 Val & Duncan Miller	10 Sharon & Don Brockman	17 Shannon & Bill Dever	29 Gloria & Robert Fenton (64 th)
LaVena & Ron White	11 Catharine & Dan Baker	Jennifer & David Shin	
2 Susan & Patrick Dowling	12 Cathy & Steve Colman	18 Teri & Scott Armanini	30 Ann & Jeff Schroeder
6 Le Anne & Bart Jacobi (56 th)	13 Saba & Shadaab Kanwal	21 Dory & Tom Schramm	
	Tamra & Kevin Keen	27 Lynne & Larry Henderson (51 st)	
8 Deirdree Walsh-Krumrei & Gary Krumrei	16 Laurie & Joe Rousseu	Priscilla & Ted Wolfram	