



# Valley Messenger

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

**JULY 2017**

## *A Parsonal Point of View ~*

## **Good-bye and Hello!**

It was a good party that we had for Luke, Stephanie and Caleb yesterday. It all began, of course, with worship and Luke's final sermon with us. Added to the effectiveness of his message was the power and poignancy of some wonderful music provided by both the Chancel Choir and the duet by Kaylee Bain and Allie Metcalf. Kleenex were in short supply! Afterwards, we held a BBQ and had the opportunity to reflect a bit more about the past six years and the gift of the ministry that Luke and Stephanie shared with us. All in all, it was a good day—one that invited a unique combination of tears, laughter and celebration.

As I write this, Luke and Stephanie are busy packing up their offices and getting ready for the next chapter of their lives at the Church of the Wayfarer in Carmel. At the same time, we are busy with our own plans to welcome our new Associate Pastor and our new Director of Children's and Family Ministries.

## **Don't Miss What's Inside**

- 1 PPV: Good-bye and Hello!
- 3 Discovery Classes
- 4 Bon Zanmi Boulanje (A Haiti Update)
- 5 Upcoming Mission Opportunities
- 6 Church Council Report
- 8 ARC Info
- 9 July Communion Offering
- 11 Between the Bookends
- 13 Youth, Children and Family Ministries
- 14 Among Ourselves
- 15 Birthdays & Anniversaries

***Next Issue: August 2017***

*Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik [newsletter@srvumc.org](mailto:newsletter@srvumc.org) by **July 15, 2017**.*

As was announced several weeks ago, **Rev. Lorraine McNeal** has been appointed by our Bishop and Cabinet to be our Associate Pastor (3/4 Time). Her first official Sunday will be on July 2 and our Staff Parish Relations Committee is already busy with plans to provide you with opportunities to "meet and greet" Lorraine in casual, small group settings. Lorraine will be preaching her first sermon with us on Sunday, July 9, and will be immersing herself in the summer time activities of life at SRVUMC. Having recently had the opportunity to spend concentrated time with Lorraine in conversation, I am, personally, excited about the energy, passion and depth that she will bring to the life of our congregation. She is an excellent preacher and teacher and is deeply committed to the challenge being in the Church in a difficult time.

More recently, our Staff Parish Relations Committee has announced that **Laura Roy** has been selected as our new Director of Children's and Family Ministries. Laura has served in this capacity previously in the Hillside Covenant Church and has extensive experience in working not only with children, but youth and adults as well. She is not a complete stranger to our congregation, as her husband, Tom, has worked with Horace Crawford in their shared passion to be in ministry with the

## **SRVUMC**

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### **Ministers**

EVERYONE

### **Lead Pastor**

Ron Dunn (ext. 107)

### **Office Administrator,**

### **Membership,**

### **Accounts Receivable**

Shannon Dever (ext 105)

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### **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)

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### **Messenger Editor**

Lisa Jancarik

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homeless of our area. It is with pleasure that we welcome Laura and Tom to our church family. Laura will “hit the ground running” as she will be joining with our Vacation Bible School Team to launch this year’s rendition on July 10-13.

Even as we prepare to welcome both Lorraine and Laura to our staff, our Staff Parish Relations Committee is still in the search process to find our new Director of Youth Ministries. As the search continues, I would like to offer a special word of thanks to all of those parents who are stepping up to help meet the ongoing needs of our youth program. I would be remiss if I did not offer a special “thank you” to both Carrie Metcalf and Susan Dunn for all their work in attending to the administrative and financial needs of the program.

So it is that in this season of transition and change, we find ourselves saying both, “Good-bye” and “Hello.” And that, it occurs to me, is the way life often is. Even as we share in the sadness of parting company with Luke, Stephanie and Caleb, we will also share in the gladness of welcoming Lorraine and Laura to our church family. With our new building (The ARC) set to open, there is much good work to be done and, by the grace of God, we have been blessed to have this new opportunity to share in this work with them.

Grace & Peace,

*Ron*

**P.S.** I also want to express my deep thanks and appreciation to our Staff Parish Committee for their tireless efforts to attend to the many details of this season of transition. Their commitment to this church and its future is most impressive to me and even though they often serve in a “behind the scenes” capacity, I want to let you know of their good work and just how fortunate we are to have them working on our behalf.

## **Welcome and Get Acquainted with Pastor Lorraine**

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is organizing four “Meet and Greet” gatherings for the congregation to welcome and get acquainted with our new **Interim Pastor, Reverend Lorraine McNeal**. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend on one of the following dates:

**Sunday, July 16** - Noon in the Fireside Room

**Wednesday, July 19** – 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room

**Sunday, August 13** – Noon in the Fireside Room

**Wednesday, August 23** – 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room

Light refreshments will be served.



# Discovery Classes

## Welcome to Our Newer Members



**HYMES, VICTOR & KATHY**, P.O. Box 558, Alamo 94507. 362-8067. Transfer from Lafayette/Orinda Presbyterian Church. Kathy is an attorney, and Victor is an investment manager. They have two adult sons. [victor@4-musicians.com](mailto:victor@4-musicians.com)



**ORR, THELMA**, 1647 Skycrest Dr., #29, Walnut Creek 94595. 562-221-7874. Transfer from Euclid Avenue UMC in Oak Park, IL. Thelma is retired. Her husband, John, is a retired Presbyterian pastor. Their son and his wife are also joining today. [Thelmaorr@gmail.com](mailto:Thelmaorr@gmail.com)



**ORR, DARRELYN & JOHN**, 317 Paraiso Dr., Danville 94526. 310-872-8429. Join by Reaffirmation of Faith. Darrelyn is an at-home mom. John is an insurance broker. They have three children: Jackson, 14, and twins Audrey and Charlie, 10.



**TORGENSEN, WALT & ELKE**, 700 Palmira Ct., San Ramon 94583. 837-5570. Join by Reaffirmation of Faith. Walt is retired from the aircraft maintenance business. Elke is also retired. They have two adult sons. [wtorg@comcast.net](mailto:wtorg@comcast.net), [elke-torg@comcast.net](mailto:elke-torg@comcast.net)



**SCHREIBER, FRED**, 1304 Oak Vista Way, Pleasanton 94566. 997-5328. Joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. Fred is an HR consultant. His fiancée is Barbara Usher. [fredschreiber@gmail.com](mailto:fredschreiber@gmail.com)



**WILLMAN, BRENT & SANDRA**, 1488 Via Don Jose, Alamo 94507. 310-463-3692. Join by Reaffirmation of Faith. Brent is an accountant and Sandra is a nurse, but currently an at-home mom. They have two children: Emma, 8, and Grace, 5. [svargas430@gmail.com](mailto:svargas430@gmail.com), [bwillman@pacbell.net](mailto:bwillman@pacbell.net)

*Facilitators for their Discovery classes were Ron Dunn, Luke Ham and Kathleen Saghafi. If you are thinking of joining SRVUMC, ask about our next Discovery class! Classes are offered three times per year. You can email [Kathleen Saghafi \(ksaghafi@srvumc.org\)](mailto:ksaghafi@srvumc.org) for more information.*

WELCOME



# Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

## Bon Zanmi Boulanje (Good Friend Bakery)

### An Update from Haiti

I am speechless and caught flat-footed that the solar oven goal was reached so quickly. Wow!

Our church continues to bring good things to Haiti through missional visits and hands-on and in-kind contributions, as well as continued financial assistance to feed children.

The results of this project will not only feed more kids, but also will be an asset to the community. The Bon Zanmi Boulanje Bakery is planned for opening in 2019. **With your contributions of over \$16,000 plus a matching donor's grant of \$15,000, you have brought the fund to \$31,000 for the bakery project.** We have also received \$15,000 from Mt. Olivette UMC in Arlington, Virginia. All of these funds will be used for the bakery equipment once the building is ready. We are actively seeking funds for the facility.

The project has now engaged a Haitian architect involved with the design, and we have met with local government agencies in regards to the requirements and permits. It will be professionally built and meet standard American building codes. The bakery building will begin as a 460 sq. ft. masonry block building, as modern as those you would find in the US. Storage will be made from the cargo container that the ovens were packed in for shipping.

The bakery is planned for the IMEC School, a school we support, on its campus in Arcahaie. Solar ovens will be the center of the cooking. Each oven can produce over 1,000 meals daily and will feed all of the students in our project.

The bakery is also to have a storefront to sell baked goods and other fast food. Wholesale Baked goods are also planned to be sold to establishments along national Hwy 1, such as hotels, bars and restaurants.

This enterprise will be a giant step to self-reliance for the schools by providing not only lunches but also an income stream to support the schools.

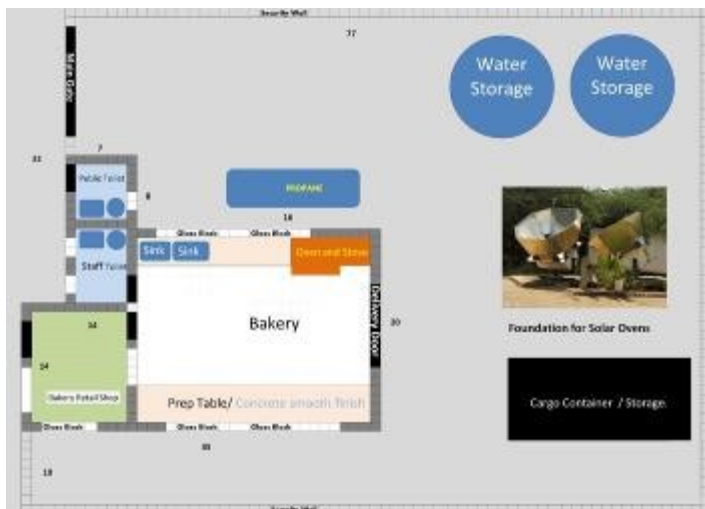
Thank you so much for your donations.

In Mission Together,

*Warren McGuffin*



*A satellite view of the bakery's location on the IMEC campus in Haiti.*



*Floor plan for the bakery showing a layout of the grounds, including where those new solar ovens go.*



# Upcoming Mission Opportunities

## LOCAL

**Contra Costa and Solano County Food Bank** – Our next scheduled date to sort and box food at their facility is **Saturday, July 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Another is scheduled for the same time slot on **Saturday, September 23**. Contact **Lee Rust** at [chijocol@aol.com](mailto:chijocol@aol.com) or at **925-820-9047** for more information.



**California Mission Project:** We will again travel to Weed, California (near Mt. Shasta) to help rebuild from the 2014 Boles Fire for the second year in a row. The project has been successful with only three Habitat for Humanity homes left to complete. We will carpool to the area on **Sunday, August 20**, work on the project, and travel back late **Thursday, August 24**. Check our website or contact **Larry Pasquale**, **640-8799**, [larry\\_pasquale@hotmail.com](mailto:larry_pasquale@hotmail.com)



## WORLD

**Guatemala Wheelchair Mission Trip**—We will be returning to Guatemala for another rewarding wheelchair giving mission trip. Dates are **January 27 to February 3, 2018**. We will again be providing 110 wheelchairs (at a cost of \$150 each), to the needy in the cities of Antigua and Guatemala City. In addition, we will be donating our time for two days at the Hermano Pedro Hospital in Antigua. The August Communion offering will be going towards the cost to cover the 110 wheelchairs. *Please contact Paul Kuelz at [paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net) or 925-831-3128 for more information.*



### Our Mission Calendar...Long View

#### July

Food Bank of CC/Solano Counties - July 1  
Danville 4th of July parade

#### August

Weed Fire Rebuild - August 20-24

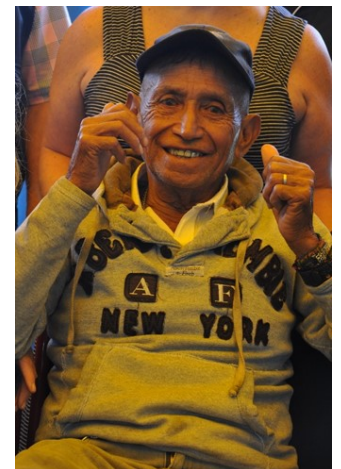
#### September

Habitat For Humanity Build-a-Thon- September 16  
Food Bank of CC/Solano Counties - September 23  
Haiti Medical Team - September 18-25  
Haiti Community Support Team - September 26-October 3

#### Further Ahead...

Mission Sunday - October 8  
Crop Walk - October 15  
Haiti Education Team - October 4-11  
Guatemala Wheelchair trip - January 27-February 3, 2018

### Mission Memories...



*Two of many wheelchair recipients from the February 2017 Guatemala trip.*

# Mission Volunteers & Communion Giving

## Special Offerings

Lent - Haiti Solar Ovens \$16,050

## May 2017 Volunteers

- Coffee hour - 14 volunteers
- Sodbusters - 20 volunteers
- Food For Thought - 20 volunteers
- Souper Center - 4 volunteers
- Sunshine Singers - 18 volunteers

Month	Entity	Amt
Jan	Haiti	\$2,625
Feb	Limb Restoration	\$1,348
Mar	One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,694
Easter	Rise Against Hunger Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Council Richmond Interfaith 1 <sup>st</sup> Methodist Church - Salinas	\$2,000 \$1,200 \$1,000 \$2,840 \$2,840
April	Trinity Center	\$2,330
May	Local Youth Mission	\$2,031
Jun	African University Weed CA Fire Recovery	0 0
Jul	Monument Crisis Center Stand for Families Free of Violence	0 0
Aug	Fred Finch Youth Center Guatemala Wheelchair Program	0 0
Sep	Rise Against Hunger Habitat for Humanity Playhouse	0 0
Oct		0
Nov		0
Dec	UMCOR World Aids Day Youth Homes BAAYFS	0 0 0
Christmas	Winter Nights	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$19,908</b>
	Other	0

# Church Council Report

*The Church Council met on May 16 and June 20, 2017.*

## ARC

Bob Baker led a tour of the ARC, which is substantially complete. The County issued the Occupancy Permit June 23. A basketball camp for youngsters, **"Wolfpack Basketball,"** is scheduled for **June 26 to 30.**

Jim Burk, interim ARC manager, reported he has lined up quality renters for the ARC and has a waiting list of potential renters. All-church nights will be scheduled for designated activities. The facility will be open 90-plus hours per week as follows: Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Sunday noon to 6 p.m. *The dedication ceremony for the ARC is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, September 10.*

*See Page 8 of this newsletter for more info about activities at the ARC and how you can volunteer there!*

## Finance Committee

Through May, total income is \$37,468 over budget, with total expense \$4,900 under budget, resulting in a favorable variance to budget of \$38,615. **The year-to-date net surplus in the General Fund is \$71,552.**

Pastor Ron plans to propose the creation of a **Mission Service Fund** with the goal of inviting small groups from our Church to team with small groups from other churches for service work, Bible study, meal sharing, discussion, etc. This would be an

opportunity to pay forward the generosity that has been extended to our Church, such as the ARC, sanctuary, and courtyard remodeling.

The Council approved the Finance Committee's recommendation to adopt a **Policy Allocation of Undesignated Gifts**. The policy sets forth guidelines for allocation of bequests or other gifts not designated to fund a specific group or activity within the Church.

## Staff Parish Relations Committee

*Rev. Lorraine McNeal has been named interim Associate Pastor, effective July 1.*

Meet and Greet sessions with Pastor Lorraine are scheduled.

*Laura Roy has been hired as full-time Director of Children's and Family Ministry, effective June 26, 2017.*

*A search is underway to fill the vacant Director of Youth Ministry position. Carrie Metcalf and Susan Dunn* were recognized for stepping up to manage the Youth Program in the absence of a Youth Director.

*Anne Burk and Susan Doran* were recognized for their fine efforts in producing the celebration and going away event for **Pastor Luke, Stephanie and Caleb**.

In February, the Council charged SPRC to perform an assessment of SRVUMC's current staffing structure to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of the structure by July 1, 2017. SPRC concluded that the only change called for now is to reduce **the Associate Pastor position from full-time to three-quarter time**, resulting in a net savings of \$26,908. Another benefit of the study is that SPRC members and Church staff increased overall understanding how work is done at the church and how each position adds to the greater whole. SPRC recommends repeating the process in the coming year as the Associate Pastor position is interim, the needs of the ARC will be clarified, and other staff positions can be addressed as appropriate.

*Meet Pastor Lorraine in the Fireside Room!*

- Sunday, July 16, Noon
- Wednesday, July 19, 7 p.m.
- Sunday, August 13, Noon
- Wednesday, August 23, 7 p.m.

## Youth Council

**Chair Carrie Metcalf** reported on the Youth Council's efforts to carry out youth activities over the summer. The houseboat trip scheduled for the last week of June was **cancelled**.

*Thank you to Carrie Metcalf and Susan Dunn for stepping up for the Youth program!*

## Strategic Development & Implementation

A new graphic visual description for executing the strategic initiatives was presented by the strategic planning steering committee. Representatives from the ARC, the Preschool, Music, and Youth will be included on the steering committee.

## Board of Trustees

The BOT received responses to the **congregational survey regarding serving alcohol on campus**. Findings will be discussed at the July Council meeting.

## Missions and Service

*Mission Sunday is scheduled for October 8.* Only one service will be held, followed by a playground equipment build and food packing. Additional service opportunities will be available during the week preceding Mission Sunday.

The minutes of the May 16 and June 20 Church Council meetings, written committee reports, and other documents mentioned above, are posted on the Church website.

*The next Church Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. All members are welcome to attend.*

*Terry Sherman*

*Chair, SRVUMC Church Council*



## Come and Visit the ARC!

Sixteen months ago, we broke ground for our new Athletic & Recreation Center (ARC). As we approach the opening of this beautiful facility (date yet to be officially determined), our hearts are filled with a sense of gratitude for the unbelievable generosity of our donor family. We have a product in the form of gym capacity that is so badly needed by the community and our young people. A significant number of our congregation have worked tirelessly to make this dream a reality.

Some members of our congregation have made it over to the ARC to visit and take in the absolute beauty of our new facility. I would like to extend a warm welcome to each of you to come and tour the building with me or one of our managers and take in its splendor after church services starting on **Sunday, June 25 and any Sunday thereafter**. Also, if you are on campus during the week, please come and visit at that time as well. I am now regularly working in the ARC office during the week, would love to show you the ARC, and can fill you in on our featured sports and operational plans.

*Jim Burk*

**Volunteer ARC Director**

## Soccer Shots at ARC!

Soccer Shots is excited to partner with ARC and expand our soccer program within the San Ramon Valley Area. We have been serving school locations since 2010 and are looking forward to now offering public classes open to all at ARC.



Our first session of classes this summer will run from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday mornings, beginning July 8.

Soccer Shots has been consistently ranked the #1 Children's Fitness franchise in the United States. We are an age-appropriate curriculum based program teaching children the fundamentals of the world's most popular sport in a positive and encouraging environment. Soccer Shots teammates will learn basic skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting, teamwork and sportsmanship all while having FUN!

Please visit our website at [Soccershots.org](http://Soccershots.org) or send us an email directly for more information at [east-bay@soccershots.org](mailto:east-bay@soccershots.org).

We look forward to working with your little player soon!

## ARC VOLUNTEERS AS ASSISTANT MANAGERS STILL NEEDED

Over the last two years, we have recruited volunteer Assistant Managers for two reasons. First, we wish to have staff on site during the entire time the ARC is open so as to watch over the facility and to assist those people and organizations who are using the gymnasium. The ARC, as approved by the County, is allowed to be open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Monday thru Friday; and 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday; and from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. Whether we will be able to consistently fill the ARC with recreational activity during these 92 hours will be tested in the days and months ahead.

Second, if we are able to successfully recruit volunteers from our congregation to fill these important staff positions, then we can save significant expense dollars and facilitate our desire to have the ARC cover our expenses each week, month, and annually. It also gives us the opportunity to test our ability to prove that we can cover our expenses and run a recreational operation on a sound financial non-profit basis.

Our objective is to recruit enough personnel such that the challenge to cover this large number of hours is not a burden to any one of our volunteers. We currently have a roster of

twelve men and women who are excited about helping to provide coverage. However, we still could utilize additional people who are truly interested in helping us with this objective, and for which the physical challenge of these positions is well within their capabilities. Also when you factor in the personal situations that can arise such as temporary illness, or the desire to take vacations, you can potentially never have enough staff coverage.

Thus, we continue to seek persons within the congregation who have the inclination and desire to add to our staffing numbers. If this ministry is attractive to you, please contact me directly so that we might discuss your interest and passion about filling the perceived needs. You may e-mail me at [jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net) or call me at (925) 946-1192. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

*Jim Burk*

**Volunteer ARC Director**



# July Communion Offering

This month, our Communion offering supports two organizations serving the needs of local families for decades.

## **STAND! For Families Free of Violence**

**STAND! For Families Free of Violence** is a Bay Area organization committed to eliminating family violence. They offer “a complete spectrum of prevention, intervention and treatment programs.” Specifically, STAND! provides children’s therapy, childcare and children’s educational programs to abused children and children impacted by domestic violence. The organization also trains legal and law enforcement personnel, human services professionals, educators and healthcare providers.



STAND! Against Domestic Violence began in the 1970s as a single telephone line in a utility closet in Contra Costa County. By the 1980s, the dedicated volunteers who staffed it had built their organization into one of the Bay Area’s leading domestic violence community services. Meanwhile, another organization, Family Stress Center, was expanding its services to include parenting education, the Latino Family Program and Proud Fathers. The two nonprofit agencies cooperated to share effort and skills. In 2010, they unified as STAND! For Families Free of Domestic Violence, and today this organization is the sole provider of comprehensive services for those impacted by domestic violence in the region.

## **Monument Crisis Center**

Based in Concord, **Monument Crisis Center** offers nutritious food and other resources to families in Central and Eastern Contra Costa County. Last year, Monument provided about one million meals to its clients.



Monument began in 2003 with a small group of concerned citizens. Startup funding came from Safeway Foundation, the Salvation Army, Soroptimist

International of Pleasant Hill and independent donors, while enthusiasm came from area high school students. Today, Monument serves over 4,000 different households per year, and each distribution serves between 80 and 120 families. The group purchases food from the food bank, but it also receives private food donations.

Monument’s core effort is food distribution, but it is not its only program. Additionally, this organization:

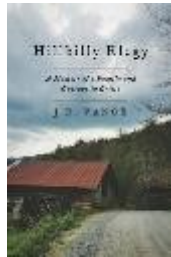
- Provides a Youth Enrichment Program, offering after-school tutoring, a teen center and summer camp for school-age kids.
- Hosts a resource fair annually, acquainting visitors with opportunities for employment, health and wellness, and English language classes available locally.
- Provides lunch and bingo through the Senior Moments program, as well as health screenings and some groceries with this opportunity to socialize for senior citizens.

## Afternoon Book Group

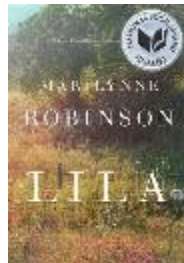
Monday, 1 p.m.

Rm. 202, Wesley Center

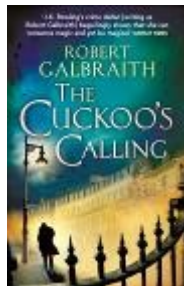
Monday July 17—*Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J.D. Vance (Debbie leading)



Monday, August 21—*Lila* by Marilynne Robinson (Sharon leading)



Monday, September 18—*The Cuckoo's Calling* by Robert Galbraith (Teresa leading)

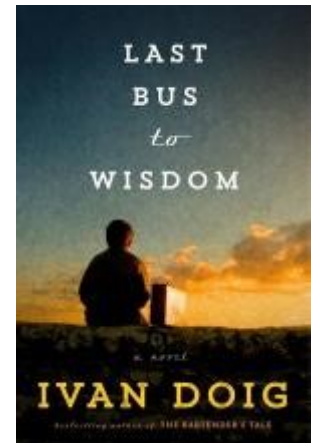


## Christ Care Book Group

August 23 at 10 a.m.

Church Library

Review and discuss *Last Bus to Wisdom* by Ivan Doig.



## OPEN DISCUSSION!

Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in Room 202

Beginning July 2

These will be led by Bill Rust and others as continuing discussions of Drop-in Disciple, Social Principles, or any other topic of interest.



## Lost Christianities

Begins June 25 at 10:30 a.m.

Led by Dave Coombs

Come to view a series of 30-minute lectures by noted New Testament scholar Bart Ehrman of UNC Chapel Hill. So far, we have covered the diversity of early Christian movements, including the Gnostics. These groups eventually died out, and their texts did not make it into the canon (e.g., the Gospel of Peter or The Secret Gospel of Mark). However, some of their theology did survive and is being revived today.

At the end of each video, we typically have a lively discussion. These series will cover the history of the Orthodox Christian movement, which includes the formation of the New Testament canon, the Orthodox corruption of the Scripture, and the early Christian creeds.

All are welcome. No reading is necessary, although Dave does send out an outline of each video prior to class.



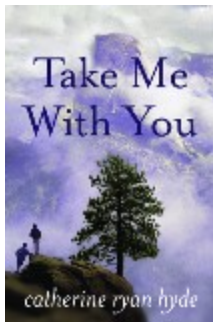
## Between the Bookends



By Sally Christopherson, Librarian

We are deep into summer, and the book cart and library have never been busier, and what a tribute to the “Open Minds” part of our church motto! Book clubs continue to meet and apparently quite a few books are going along on those long-awaited vacations! Mazel Tov!

As we always promise, here are four new titles to keep you interested, intrigued and delighted!



**Hyde, Catherine Ryan. *Take Me With You*.** Burned-out science teacher August Shroeder has not had a drink since his nineteen-year-old son died. He plans to do what he does every summer—tour the West in his RV, but this year will be very different, because only Philip’s ashes are going with him. When his van breaks down and he’s short of money for the repairs, he gets a surprising offer from the mechanic. “Take my two boys with you—

I have to serve a 90-day sentence and have no one to take them. Drop them off here at the end of summer—and I’ll repair your van for nothing.” At first August refuses, but as the boys stand there, barely breathing with excitement, he reluctantly relents. Watch three lives being changed and prepare for a lump in your throat.

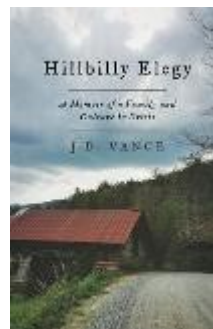


**Jenoff, Pam. *The Kommandant's Girl*.** How brave would you be, and which compromises would you make, when the stakes are very high? Emma Gersmann had been married only six weeks, and never believed she would deny her Jewish heritage, pass as a Gentile, and become a German Kommandant’s assistant—and much more to him. But she was desperately afraid for her parents confined in the Krakow ghetto, and her fervent young

husband who had left to fight in the Resistance. How far would she go to protect them and perhaps learn information that might help them and save countless lives? Compromises were made. A page-turner.



**Smith, Dominic. *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos*.** Ellie Shipley is a brilliant young art student who consults in art restoration when she agrees to paint an exact copy of a rare Dutch masterpiece. She knows this is art forgery but the technical challenge intrigues her. Over 40 years later, Ellie is a respected art historian and curator mounting an exhibition of Dutch paintings when she learns two respected museums have each sent that painting to her exhibit. One of them will be her forgery and almost certainly destroy her life and career. What to do now?



**Vance, J. D. *Hillbilly Elegy; A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*.** An elegy is defined as a mournful or melancholy lament, and that is certainly what J. D. Vance is putting forth in this eloquent and astonishing account of his hillbilly childhood. Product of a truly dysfunctional family, he recounts with a clear eye the shocking life that almost broke him, but recognizes the power of family love and loyalty—and the U. S. Ma-

rines—to change lives. His grandmother, Mamaw, swears like a sailor and has dubious opinions on many issues, but is his constant haven of safety and fountain of common sense. Memorable.

***The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.***

—**Samuel Clemens, 1835-1910**



# Prime Time Players

## (Formerly “Senior Scoop”)

### **7-11-17 Prime Time Pot Luck and Presentation—12:00 noon, Wesley Center**

Christine Lind from the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department will give a talk on crime prevention and safety for seniors. Good stuff to be reminded of!

Please bring a dish to share or stop at the deli or bakery. If it's just one of those days, please join us anyway! We always have plenty of food and your company is what really matters!!

### **7-18-17 Lunch with Friends—12:00 noon, Wesley Center**

Chef John Sanders will prepare his amazing BBQ ribs, 3-bean salad, macaroni salad and fruit compote for dessert. Please join us for a relaxing, fun lunch full of fellowship and thanks for all you do. Best \$5 meal in the Valley!!

### **7-31-17 Giants V. Oakland A's in Oakland at the Coliseum – 7:05 game start**

Jerry Ricker has purchased 26 tickets. \$44. Look for a sign-up table in the courtyard between services, or call Jerry directly 925-382-2862.

**LOOKING FORWARD** – Mark your calendars for Annual Summer BBQ on August 15 in the courtyard (weather permitting). This is a chance to say THANK YOU to all the people who do so much around the church on a volunteer basis.

### **SAVE WEDNESDAY EVENING!**

## **Workshop on Secrets of Positive Communication**

**July 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

When hateful talk is too common, or when we want to have respectful and positive dialog with our children, our friends, and with those whose opinions differ from ours! Rev. Will McGarvey, Director of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County (I4C) will lead us in learning ways to maintain respectful, constructive conversations that lead to greater understanding and to defusing hatred. We'll meet in the Fireside Room. Y'all come! Sponsored by our MLK Peace and Justice Committee.



*Cake for Luke (Stephanie's own cake appears at the bottom of Page 13), evidence that Anne Burk and Susan Doran know how to throw a great party!*



## Summer at SRVUMC!

**Youth Group and music for children and youth resume in September!**

### Every Sunday

**9 a.m. Traditional Worship**

Sunday school meets

K to Grade 5: Lamm Hall

Grades 6 to 12: Room 202

**10:30 a.m. Nontraditional Worship**

Confirmation meets in room 201 until 11:45 a.m.

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

### Calendar

***ALL YOUTH TRIP REGISTRATIONS ARE TO THE OFFICE ASAP!***

**7/16-22—Gleanings for the Hungry** in Dinuba, CA. \$225/person

**7/30 to 8/15—SSP** in San Diego, CA. \$365/person



*Saying good-bye on June 18! Top: Pastor Luke Ham and some of his fan club from among the Youth. Lower Left: Children's Director Stephanie Ham in the Tot Spot. Middle Right: Steve Brown bravely grilling in the crazy heat! Lower Right: Did we mention there was cake? Luke and Stephanie each got their own.*

# Among Ourselves

## Health Concerns...

Lyn Arscott  
Daphne Kimbell  
Sylvia Benzler  
Mary Ellen Brown

## Our Christian Sympathy To...

Cindy Leonard and family on the death of Cindy's mother, Helen Grabel, on May 11. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on June 17.

Cherrie Anderson and family on the death of Cherrie's mother, Merrybell Loesel, on May 25. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on June 19.

Sons Brent and Darrin Koonce and family on the death of Jada on June 21. Cards may be sent in care of Darrin Koonce, at 22 Karl Ave., San Anselmo, CA 94960. A memorial service is planned for July 1 at 11 a.m.

## Welcome...

Cooper James Harvey, born June 6, Kay Jones' eleventh great-grandchild.

Jackson McAllister Bell, born April 30, Sharleen Keen's fourth great-grandchild.

## Thank You...

A heartfelt "thank you" to all who prayed, called, sent cards, or expressed otherwise their wishes that my recent surgery would be successful: it was. I had a wonderful surgical team, a great caregiver (my son) and the caring of so many. I'm feeling very well and very grateful.

—Lucille Eichelberger

## Continued Prayers For...

All those who continue to live with long-term illness, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families: Bill Andrew; Gene Brown; Lenore Cooper; Jeni Evans; John Evans; Brigitte Greene; Dick Greeno; Ann Hatfield; Dave & Lillian Holleman; Cary Johnson; Johnny	Johnston; Daphne Kimbell; Alleen Landstrom; Edith Liggett; Margaret Matteson; Alex Maddux; Mary Ogden; Lea Patteson; Mike Robinett; Lillian Scherer; Ann Schroeder; Pat Shoner; Jean Spencer; Carol Webb Samford; Joan Webb; Jeannine Woolery.
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## Name Tags

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

## Stay in Touch...

Luke and Stephanie Ham  
3130 Pico Ave.  
Carmel, CA 93923

## Open Position

**Memorial Reception Coordinator Needed.** We have a job opening for a caring, well-organized individual to serve as paid reception coordinator of our memorial services. This would entail working with the family of the deceased and coordinating with pastoral staff, office staff, and others, to ensure that the memorial reception meets the family's expectations. Roni Item is currently serving as Memorial Coordinator and has been handling both the service and reception, but the job is too much for one person. This person would be working with her. **Please contact Pastor Ron Dunn, at 837-5243,** if you feel you are called to this special ministry.



# July Celebrations

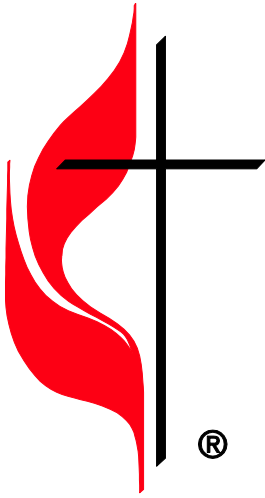
## Birthdays



1 Olivia Durrenberger	Kellie McFarland	Diane Barley	
2 Sarah Garnick	Sherrie Weis	John Orr	
Lisa Glover	Katie Wolfram	Marilyn Scott	25 Willy Adam
4 Don Field	13 Devon Drake	20 Lauren Alfrey	26 Ryan Leontini
5 John Nelson	Fern Hibdon	<b>Ann Barnes (101!!)</b>	<b>Bill Sabin (90)</b>
6 Xan Alexander	14 Amy Riedel	Esi Impraim	Corinne Warnock
Michael Dandridge	Kim Soderlund	John Marshall	27 Cherrie Anderson
Susan Hinzle	Robert Winter	Sandra McFarland	Dan Duggan
Stephanie Ricker Schmalz	15 Marilyn Christian	Ben Ten Elshof	Darlene Greeno
7 Brenda Domergue	Karen Garnick	21 Christine Duggan	Malia Malin
Emily Lucente	Gloria Holleman	Carol Fhlug	Valerie Miller
Fred Toney	Bob Lambert	<b>Harry Hanover (90)</b>	Jerry Ricker
8 Billy Andrew	Donna Paula-Willis	Ginger McGuffin	28 Tony Pelletier
9 Graydon Bazell	Briggs Wood	Bill Rust	Janet Steffy
10 Shannon Dever	16 Vlad Balyuk	<b>Mary Roush (93)</b>	Brian Stocking
Ryan Dunn	Melissa Stroin	22 Beth McKnight	29 Joseph Saghafi
Meghan Flanagan	17 Nancy Alexander	Shirley Slater	30 Karen Dudas
Vin Hirsch	Allison Lowe	Larry Stone	Mark Miller
Kathy Kennedy	Steve McAdams	23 Judy Benedict	Jeff Schroeder
Joan Ross	Caroline Walsh	Pam Lewey	31 Ed Bader
11 Ross Rudow	18 Matthew Hickson	Mitch Nicco	Gail Soldavini
Marti Starnes	Kelley Shaw	Kathy Sheppard	Greg Willis
Teri Voegtle	Vera Knowles	Georgia Wilkens	
12 Linda Ashcraft	19 Judy Baker	24 Whitney Tiedemann	

## Wedding Anniversaries

2 Bonnie & Brian Roberts <b>(51<sup>st</sup>)</b>	8 Kelly & Erik Benjamson	16 Trudy & Larry Pasquale	Alice Anthony & Alex Iantano
5 Carol & John Sayers <b>(54<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Pam & Alan Christian	Rebecca & Roger Ten-Elshof	22 Jennifer & Don Andres
6 Kathleen & Kevin Isbell	Jane & John VanderWerf	18 Sunny & Sung Ahn	23 Marianne & Bruce Templeton
Judy & Randy Slinger	9 Debbie & John Hammond	20 Katy & Gregg Mannell	31 Liz & Ron Cooper
7 Teresa Fimby-Christensen & Randy Christensen	Linda & Curtis Jimerson	21 Liz & David Bayat	Marci & Kelly Milligan
	12 Kerry & Scott Davis	Nancy & John Harrison	



# JULY 2017

## Worship Schedule

Traditional Worship, 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Non-Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m., in the Sanctuary

Child Care for birth-kindergarten is available during the morning services in the

Children's Building

July 2017

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