



Valley Messenger

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

MAY 2018

A Parsonal Point of View ~

A Prejudice Worth Cultivating

You say the little efforts that I make
will do no good: they never will prevail
to tip the hovering scale
where justice hangs in the balance.

I don't think I ever thought they would.
But I am prejudiced beyond debate
in favor of my right to choose which side
shall feel the stubborn ounces of my weight.
—Bonaro Overstreet

Dear Friends,

Given the cloud of darkness that seems to be inching over our world, it is relatively easy to become cynical about the prospects of ever reversing its course. One needs merely to reflect upon the day's top news stories to find ample evidence that the forces of despair and darkness appear to be winning. Even those who are blessed with the unfailing ability to see the glass as half full find it exceptionally difficult to believe otherwise. Those already convinced that it was half empty, are inclined to simply sit back, fold their arms and quietly announce, "I told you so." The evidence that they can point to is simply too overwhelming to ignore...

- Gun violence
- Political corruption
- Syrian use of chemical weapons
- Escalating tensions with North Korea, China and Russia
- Failure to support our teachers and students in the class room
- Cultural division and tension within our country

Those who choose to take a cynical or pessimistic view of our world and its prospects for constructive change would clearly be in the majority, should a survey be taken. And that, of course, is not surprising. Most would even suggest that it understandable and simply being realistic.

While I tend to agree, the problem that I see is that our choice to be "realistic" about our world as it is, can easily be translated into a "fatalistic" view that voluntarily relinquishes hope and the possibility of ever making a creative and constructive difference. This, it seems, is the approach that more and more people are tempted to adopt in their own response to the grim news of life in the year 2018. They are inclined to believe that there really is nothing that they can do to reverse the darkness and that it only makes sense to face the

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Next Issue: June 2018

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

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facts and the limits that they place on their idealism.

We currently find ourselves in the Season of Eastertide, the season of the church year that emphasizes the importance of the good news of love's triumph over death and hope's victory over despair. It is a season that makes it clear that the message of Easter is one that is not just intended for single holiday celebration, but one that is intended to be lived out each day of the year.

The poem by Bonar Overstreet is one, I think, that captures the appropriate response to all of the bad news that we face today. There is, of course, a note of realism in the assessment that what we do may not "tip the balance" of the scales of justice. Yet, there is also a resolve in the last line that simply refuses to give up or give in to the belief that we can't make a difference: **"But I am prejudiced beyond debate in favor of my right to choose which side shall feel the stubborn ounces of my weight."**

This, I believe, is the one prejudice worth cultivating—the prejudice of caring enough about others and our world to actually throw our weight behind the work of doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God. While it may be difficult to know if our efforts will make any difference at all, we will, at least, know that we have done what we could do to make this world the place that God intends for it to be.

There's an old Jewish saying that suggests that, "God gives us the task. God does not ask that we succeed, only that we not lay it aside."

Our task, should we choose to accept it, is to translate the Good News of an empty tomb into a witness that brings life and hope and joy to a world that is in desperate need of it. While it may not appear that the odds are in our favor, that need not deter us in the least. My prayer for you and for us as a congregation is that this lonely and broken world of ours will feel the stubborn ounces of our weight as we work together to reverse the darkness by the authority and power of God's light.

Grace & Peace,

Ron

Dunn's Puns Edition!
Look for two more signs
handpicked by Pastor Ron to



Church Council Takeaways

Rausch Kitchen awarded health department permit • ARC Charter presented

Finance (Bob Dominici): A motion to repay monies borrowed in 2016 from Consolidated Funds from the Reserve Fund was submitted. The funds, totaling \$9,000, had been used to create the Reserve Fund at that time and came from funds listed (see **Table 1** to the right) as part of the Consolidated Funds.

The Finance Committee also entered a motion to pay for the three upcoming retirement celebrations for Pastor Ron, Pastor Lorraine and Shannon Dever. Despite ticket sales and requested donations, the committee expects a

shortfall in participant funding to offset costs for food, decorations, et cetera. The motion requests up to \$4,500.00 from the Reserve Fund to cover potential shortfalls. The business office tracks donations and ticket sales, as well as actual expenses for each event. These figures will be reported to the Church Council on or before the July Church Council meeting. At that time, the actual figures for coverage of expenses requested from the Reserve Fund (and subsequent transfer of funding back to the General Fund) will be presented.

Regarding the General Fund (see **Table 2** for an overview of this fund as presented to the Church Council), expenses are approximately \$26K favorable to plan for 2018. Expenses for appointed and for non-appointed staff remain favorable owing to staff vacancies, like the accounting position. The variance will narrow now that Katrina Combs has joined the staff as office manager, offset by Shannon Dever's departure from the post. Office and Property expenses are favorable to plan thanks to reduced utility bills. However, Technical Maintenance is unfavorable by \$1.4K as efforts continue to bring the new Square credit card system software online. Programs remain under budget, possibly attributable to delayed billing or delays in timing of budget activities.

Table 1: Funds Borrowed in 2016 for Reserve Fund

Fund Name	Account No.	Amount Borrowed
Hospitality Capital	3.6100	\$ 1,000.00
Weddings	3.6625	\$ 1,000.00
Funerals	3.6631	\$ 2,000.00
Flowers	3.6650	\$ 2,000.00
Grill'N'Chill	3.6676	\$ 3,000.00
Total		\$ 9,000.00

Table 2: Overview of General Fund, March 2018 YTD

	Jan-Mar ACTUAL	Jan-Mar BUDGET	Pos/ (Neg) BUDGET	Full 2018 BUDGET
Pledges, Gifts	\$ 398,291	\$ 359,499	\$ 38,792	\$ 1,100,000
Other Income	13,318	12,078	1,240	46,370
Total Income	\$ 411,609	\$ 371,577	\$ 40,032	\$ 1,146,370
Appointed Staff	\$ 66,647	\$ 68,274	\$ 1,627	\$ 275,587
Non-Appointed Staff	108,560	127,422	18,862	523,718
Apportionments	40,076	36,264	(3,812)	111,250
Office / Property	53,154	57,921	4,767	219,200
Programs / Other	5,952	10,370	4,418	42,300
Total Expenses	\$ 274,389	\$ 300,251	\$ 25,862	\$ 1,172,055
Net Variance Pos/(Neg)	\$ 137,221	\$ 71,326	\$ 65,894	\$ (25,685)

According Bob Dominici:

Through March the General Fund has a YTD Net Surplus of \$65.9K to budget. This favorable variance to budget is mainly due to January and March strong Giving, plus savings on open/closed non-appointed staff positions. It should be expected that monthly Giving amounts will come back closer to YTD/monthly plan levels for the remainder of the year. In addition, the Staff compensation levels should stabilize in the third quarter and program spending is expected to increase.

Board of Trustees (Mark Miller): We still await county approval of plans for the Sanctuary remodel, submitted last month. The Board is still in consultation with an experienced firm for a disaster control plan.

The county health department awarded the Mary Roush Kitchen in Wesley Center its health permit. The permit allows us to once again prepare food for Trinity Center and church events in our kitchen. The county had recently decided not to allow churches to prepare meals for the public, potentially meaning an expensive remodel to bring our kitchen to current codes. Additionally, the county health department's annual fee has been waived because SRVUMC is a nonprofit organization (a one-time \$213 inspection fee has been paid, however). Thank you to **Joanne Knapp**, who took the lead on dealing with the county bureaucracy to clear the path for a richer fulfillment of the Roush Kitchen's many purposes.

The Board of Trustees is also reviewing electrical use on the church campus and revisiting the question of the role renewable energy can play in SRVUMC's power needs. Marin Clean Energy (MCE) offers PG&E customers the option to have 50 to 100% of their electricity supplied through renewable sources, like solar, wind, bioenergy, geothermal and hydroelectric. If MCE becomes a feature of the Church energy plans, PG&E will remain the supplier for gas services, electrical delivery, billing and line maintenance.

Also, **Boyd and Brian** will rebuild the sandbox in the preschool playground.

ARC Commission (Rick Dodge): The ARC Commission presented the ARC charter to the Church Council for approval. The charter describes the purpose and vision of the ARC and outlines the role of the ARC Commission. Furthermore, it formalizes the description of the ARC director's minimum qualifications and responsibilities.

Upcoming Mission Opportunities

LOCAL

Food Bank of CC & Solano, 4010 Nelson Ave, Concord, Saturdays 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. July 7 or September 22. Contact **Lee Rust**, chijocol@aol.com or 925-820-9047.



Mission Volunteers & Communion Giving

March 2018 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	Food for Thought	\$1,816
Feb	Limb Restoration Open Heart Kitchen	\$638 \$638
Mar	UMCOR Sunday	\$1,936
Easter	CC Interfaith Council CC Interfaith Housing Greater Richmond Interfaith Project Rise Against Hunger Habitat for Humanity	\$2,000 1,200 1,000 1,612 1,612
May	Local Youth Mission	\$0
Jun	Trinity Center African University - Conference	\$0 0

Totals		\$12,452
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Mission Memories...



One of the five SRVUMC Florist on Wheels groups. This gang included Marla Schleicher, Nancy Benvenuto, Anthony Smario, and Floy Blair.



John Green and Carole Sue Johnson were part of the gang. The whole group delivered sixty Easter flower arrangements.

Restarting Lives in Puerto Rico

September 20, 2017 – Two hundred mile-per-hour winds, torrential rain and twenty-foot tidal surges displaced hundreds of thousands of Puerto Ricans and left widespread destruction. Then months without electricity or other basic services and a massive cleanup followed. That is the legacy of Hurricane Maria, one of the most powerful storms on record and the backdrop for our recent mission trip.

The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (MCPR), working with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), developed short- and long-term plans to assist in the recovery. This included setting up the infrastructure to host volunteer teams, warehouse supplies, and hire and train case managers and other support staff. In early 2018, Bishop Ortiz of the MCPR invited volunteer teams to travel to Puerto Rico to begin working.

Anxious to help with the recovery, a team of seventeen from five Bay Area Methodist Churches (Los Altos, St. Paul's, San Ramon Valley, Asbury and Lynnewood) traveled to Puerto Rico in mid-March. Stationed at a Methodist Women's retreat center on the South Coast in Patillas with electric power supplied by generators, we worked on two homes in a nearby town, Maunabo.

Half of our team was assigned to the hillside home of Rogelio's family. Untouched since the storm, we first removed the moldy household debris and striped the walls down to the studs. We then replaced the roof and repaired other critical damage. This "can do" team completed all planned work, plus some, before the end of the week. Rogelio's firm handshake and effusive "Gracias" said it all. Now he can move back into his home after six months of displacement.

Team "A", as we affectionately called them, took on the challenge of restoring Sara's home. She, and her extended family, had been living with other relatives since the storm. This industrious group of missionaries worked on rebuilding two rooms from the ground up and added a roof on the last day. Tearful goodbyes and the Lord's Prayer graced our departure. This is what living our faith is all about! Sara was moving back in minutes after we left.

We are proud to be Christian humanitarians representing our home churches and are grateful for the support of our sponsoring congregations. In addition to our labor, we were able to donate thousands of dollars in tools to the ongoing recovery effort. The recovery is expected to take eight to ten years.

Trips like this are chock full of special moments. We attended worship at Iglesia Metodista Puerta Del Cielo. What a warm welcome we received! We admired the host staff supporting our work. Their heartfelt commitment was remarkable. We savored getting to know a bit of the local culture. The people in rural Puerto Rico are so gracious and generous in all respects.

Now, as we look back on this experience we feel blessed to have the time, talent and the means to make a profound difference in the lives of two families in such an intimate way. We touched the lives of strangers who so deserve a chance to begin anew.

Leslie Carmichael, Harold Caudle, Trevor Caudle, Dick Crawford, Lisa Demers, Angela Eglon, Steve Elliott, Roger Everett, Kirk Gould, Doug Huey, Mary Ellen Huey, Robert Lee, Melia Mehlhorn, Yvonne Murray, Bart Rodgers, Ray Spooner and Carol Woodward.



Retirement Parties!



Celebration Brunch for Shannon Dever

Sunday, May 6 – *One service only held at 9:00 a.m. in Wesley Center*

11:00 a.m. brunch to honor Shannon in Wesley Center

Free will offering of \$5.00 + suggested

Please RSVP by April 29 to Nancy Benvenuto at nancybenvenuto@gmail.com or sign up in the courtyard between services.



Reception Brunch for Pastor Lorraine

Sunday, June 10 – *One service only held at 9:00 a.m. in Wesley Center.*

Brunch in the courtyard following the service.



Retirement Dinner Celebration for Pastor Ron

Sunday, June 24 – 5:00 p.m. BBQ Dinner In Wesley Center

Tickets go on sale **May 13** and will be available at coffee hour, in the church office or online.

Ticket Prices: Adults: \$20, Children 12 and under: \$10.

It is hoped that everyone can attend this appreciation event, so if the price is felt to be prohibitive, a ticket can be secured for a \$5 good will donation from Katrina Combs, Office Manager, in the Church Office. You need not give your name, just ask for a ticket.

Retirement Gift Donations

If you wish to contribute to retirement gifts for Pastor Ron, Pastor Lorraine, and Shannon, then please write a **check payable to SRVUMC** and indicate in the memo line **“Retirement Gifts.”** Then designate how much you would like to donate for the gift for each person. Please note the deadlines for making gifts. You can use the form below or write a note with your check. Please send or drop off your donation to Katrina Combs, Office Manager, in the church office as soon as possible, so we can determine the amount available for the gifts. Thank you from your Staff Parish Relations Committee.

Name of Recipient	Amount of Donation
Pastor Ron Dunn <i>Donation Deadline: June 17</i>	
Pastor Lorraine McNeal <i>Donation Deadline: June 3</i>	
Shannon Dever, Office Manager <i>Donation Deadline: April 29</i>	

Name of Donor



Between the Bookends



Please Check Your Book Shelves at Home. Do you see any books with a white sticker on its spine? They may be from our library. We are now missing **SEVEN** books that were taken from the book cart without leaving the signature card in the designated box. Here are the titles:

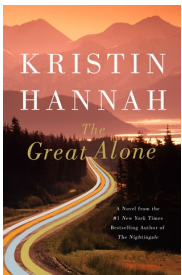
- *The Kommandant's Girl*
- *Camino Island*
- *Hidden Figures*
- *A Dog's Purpose*
- *Crooked Heart*
- *Oleander Girl*
- *My Grandmother Asked Me To Tell You She's Sorry*

Some books have made a break for it!

Check your shelves for the fugitives listed to the right!

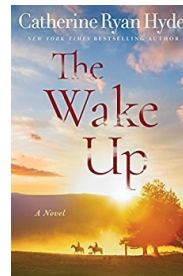


Now the good news: we have four new books for you to enjoy!

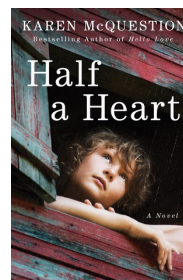


Hannah, Kristen, *The Great Alone*. This book deals with the struggles of a family with a father suffering from PTSD as a result of his experiences in the Vietnam War. The story is set against the grandeur of Alaska along with the perils of nature in a remote section of the state. Most of the story is told through the eyes of Leni, a teenage girl forced to cope

with sometimes horrifying situations. In this powerful tale, the aid of two benevolent neighbors and grandparents reminds the reader yet again of the redeeming force of community and love. Thank you, Marilyn Scott!

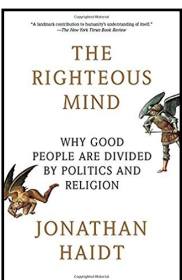


Hyde, Catherine Ryan, *The Wake Up*. A moving story about a middle-aged cattle rancher, Aiden, who changes forever when he rediscovers his ability to feel the pain of others. In this new capacity he tries to help Milo, the young son of a woman he hopes to marry. Milo, broken by abuse by his real father, very slowly comes to trust Aiden to overcome his anger and distrust. The ending is full of hope and promise. It's one of those hard-to-put-down books.



McQuestion, Karen, *Half a Heart*. Having run away from his relentlessly abusive father, nine-year-old Logan Weber spends a few days surviving on his own in an alien world by relying on his wits and the moral standards instilled by him by his beloved grandmother. Unbeknown to him, the grandmother he thinks has died is

looking for him as is his violent father, leading to a chase episode as exciting as one in an action movie. While this book deals with difficult topics, it is both a heartwarming and satisfying read.



Haidt, Jonathan, *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion*. Why do people hold such wildly differing beliefs? Why can others' views seem so illogical? The author shows that moral judgments arise not from reason but from intuition and why we evolved to be that way. He explains why liberals,

conservatives and libertarians have such different intuitions about right and wrong. This book can help us understand why our country is presently so politically polarized. Many thanks to Lyn and Joan Arscott!

There is no friend as loyal as a book.

—Ernest Hemingway



May Communion Offering

Youth Missions

This month's communion offering supports **Youth Missions** in three crucial ways.

- **Work Study:** Allows any youth to work jobs around the church — serving at events, cleaning, childcare, et cetera — to raise funds for his or her mission account.
- **General Scholarship:** Helps families who need additional resources to allow their youth to go on one of our mission trips.
- **Transportation Costs:** Pays for rental trucks, vans and fuel for our youth mission trips.

This year's youth missions will go to **YouthWorks** and to **Sierra Service Project**.



Sierra Service Project, Washington State, July 28 to August 5

Founded in 1975 by several United Methodist ministers, Sierra Service Project is a Christian, nonprofit organization repairing homes and public spaces in rural and urban communities. Middle school and high school students perform these acts of service and learn about cultures and lifestyles different from their own. Approximately 1,400 youth from 180 churches work together at any of five different locations.

This year, SRVUMC youth will serve the Spokane Indian Tribe living in Wellpinit in the state of Washington. Sierra Service Project has had a presence with the tribe for the past three years. Wellpinit is home to about 2,700 tribal members. Most of the work SSP does is for elderly in Wellpinit, Ford, and West End communities. Participating youth build wheelchair ramps, stairs, awnings, porches, and wood sheds, plus they make other general home repairs. Most projects take longer to complete than the week youth spend with SSP, so they may participate in the beginning, middle, or end of a project.

The tribe has agreed to pay for the building materials, reducing the fee to \$335 for all participants at this site.

In 2017, youth worked with the Spokane Housing Authority to complete 18 significant home repair projects. Youth should check out <http://sierraserviceproject.org/locations/spokane/> to download the **Understanding Reservations Guide** in advance of the mission work or follow the organization's presence in Wellpinit on Instagram [@SSPspokane2018](#).

YouthWorks in Portland, OR, June 16 to 22

YouthWorks provides Christ-centered mission trips for more than 20,000 teens and adult leaders in over 60 communities in the U.S. and beyond. This organization has been creating mission trips for more than 20 years.

This year, SRVUMC youth will listen to and learn from local leaders and service partners about the issues the people of Portland face, including struggles of homelessness, gentrification, historic and current racism, and concern over environmental issues. The group will serve existing social service organizations and participate in the good work these organizations do to serve vulnerable populations of the city. During the week, students may serve at food pantries, clothing distribution centers, soup kitchens, children's programs, local gardens or senior care facilities.

In the evenings, they will experience an outdoor adventure at Multnomah Falls, learn from a cultural speaker about social issues in the city, explore various features of Portland, and help host a community cookout. YouthWorks has partnered with this community since 2018, and the fee per teen to participate starts at \$269.

The Great Decisions of Our Age

Sundays, 10:30 a.m., Wesley Center

What are the great global policy decisions facing the U.S. and how should Christians respond? This program began Sunday April 8, at 10:30 a.m., as a series of eight weekly discussions on critical global issues using a guide prepared by the Foreign Affairs Association (FAA). This program is part of an annual, nationwide



program, whereby groups of concerned citizens throughout the U.S. will discuss why the issues are important and why we should be concerned.

The series is facilitated by **Lyn Arscott** and **Larry Stone** and is held after the first service in Wesley Center. A short DVD, prepared by the FAA is shown on each topic, and the discussion series guidebooks are on sale for \$30. Contact lynarscott@comcast.net if you need a copy. The following topics are scheduled for May:

5/6	<i>Media and Foreign Policy</i> Conventional journalism now competes with user-generated content. Cyberwarfare, hacking and misinformation pose complex security threats. What are the implications for U.S. policy?	Lyn Arscott
5/13	<i>Turkey: A Partner in Crisis</i> Of all NATO allies, Turkey represents the most daunting challenge for the U.S. What should be the U.S. strategy towards the most institutionally Westernized Muslim country in the world?	Lyn Arscott
5/20	<i>Global Health: Progress and Challenges</i> Inequalities in health and wellbeing persist. We remain vulnerable to the emergence of new and deadly pandemics. the next several decades will be important in determining wellbeing across nations.	Lyn Arscott
5/27	<i>South Africa's Fragile Democracy</i> The African National Congress (ANC) party has governed South Africa since the end of apartheid in 1994. But the party today suffers from popular frustration over official corruption and economic stagnation. Could this lead to political fragmentation in this relatively new democracy?	Larry Stone



The Wise Women's Retreat Is Back!

(All Women Are Invited)

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 30, 2018

San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville

Retreat Theme: Courage

Treat yourself to a day of spiritual nurturing and fellowship as we learn and practice how to live our lives with courage.

Barbara Ernst, our leader for the day, has been a Spiritual Director for thirty years. She received her training at Mercy Center in Burlingame in both the Art and Practice of Spiritual Direction and Supervision. She offers retreats on aging for those of us experiencing this "exciting" process and time of our lives.

San Damiano provides a lovely place to relax and enjoy nature. The grounds are conducive to strolling around with friends, finding a quiet bench to be by yourself, or walking the labyrinth. There is also a wonderful gift store with an abundance of spiritual books and other religious gifts and cards.

The price of \$66.00 includes continental breakfast and lunch provided by the staff of San Damiano. **Sign up through the church office. Contact Pastor Lorraine for scholarships.**



More Yoga with Annetta McCarty!

12 WEEK SUMMER YOGA SERIES at SRVUMC!

with Annetta McCarty, June 12th - August 31st

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:15-10:15 AM

All Levels Welcome!

Gentle Yoga—Tuesdays and Fridays

Classes focus on releasing tension, connecting with the breath, deep breathing, stretching and helping students gain greater strength, stability and flexibility. Gentle yoga moves slower, using classical Hatha yoga postures, emphasizing correct alignment, modifications and variations to accommodate all levels of yoga students.

Restorative Yoga—Thursdays

(Starts June 12!)

Heal and open your body, quiet your mind, and move into a deeper sense of relaxation. Classes use props to support students in longer-held passive poses, where the focus is on the breath and letting go. This gentle class is appropriate for seniors, mommies-to-be, or those recovering from, or living with, injury, illness, stress, addiction, trauma, grief and loss.

Don't forget Annetta's ongoing SPRING yoga classes, where drop-ins are always welcome!

10-week Spring Classes run through May 15 (Tuesdays) and through May 18 (Fridays). Drop-ins welcome: \$15

Email annetta.mccarty@gmail.com or phone 925-285-3128.

Lose Someone You Love?

Struggling with Grief?

The meeting time for this group is flexible.

Please contact Cathy Colman, cacolman5@gmail.com, if you have questions or are interested.

LIVING ROOM
CONVERSATIONS
WORKSHOP
@ SRVUMC

<https://livingroomconversations.org/>

LivingRoom
Conversations

© VIA CANVACOM

The Living Room Conversations Workshop our church hosted in March was a great success! We had over 50 participants—from our congregation, local churches and the local community—and most participants said they'd be interested in participating in a future Living Room Conversation.

We're in the process of putting together additional Living Room Conversation events. In the meantime, you are invited to participate in a video Living Room Conversation by emailing info@livingroomconversations.org or calling 510-629-0925 to learn about their video conversation schedule.

Parent Workshop

On Social-Emotional Competencies



May 17, 7:30 to 8:30

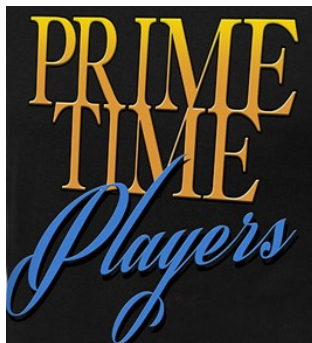
Wesley Center

Soul Shoppe, from Oakland, will offer a parent workshop on how to help children learn social-emotional competencies: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making.

The talk will be geared to preschool-age children and behavior management. Soul Shoppe works with schools, teachers, and parents with the goal of helping the members in our school communities to develop social-

Dunn's Pun #3

...Puns Dunn.



April was full of good food (Salmon Feast!) and fellowship. Please join us in May for the following events:

Tuesday, May 1—PrimeTime Potluck and Presentation 12:00 Wesley Center—Laura Roy and Jamere Crawford will discuss working with our children and youth programs, entitled *“Why We Do What We Do.”* Please join us to learn more about the great job these two dedicated leaders are doing for our youth. Please bring a dish to share, or stop at the deli or bakery on your way over. We always have plenty of food—it's your company we really want!

Tuesday, May 15—PrimeTime Lunch with Friends 12:00 Wesley Center—Chef John Sanders will be back from his cruise from Spain to Brazil. Wow! We don't have the menu yet, but knowing John, it will be something yummy! Good will offering \$5—and always the best five-dollar meal in the Valley! If you are over 55, please join us for good food and fellowship.

Tuesday, May 29—Docent-led Tour/Ruth Bancroft Gardens—Please join us to take a docent-led tour of the Ruth Bancroft Gardens at 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek. **Meet in the church parking lot to drive with friends at 9:00 a.m., or meet us there for a 10:00 a.m. tour.** We will have a brown bag lunch in the Gardens picnic area. We are considering buying boxed lunches for all those attending. Stay posted!



May 17—Soul Shoppe Parenting Workshop. See page 12 for announcement

May 20—Family Movie Night! 5-7 p.m. Everyone welcome and invite your neighbors and friends. Pizza, salad and popcorn will be available for small donation. Movie information coming soon...

June 4 to 7—Mega Basketball Sports Camp. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Grades 1 to 5. Register here: <http://www.myvbs.org/srvumcsports/> Bible teachings interwoven with basketball and soccer training will help students learn how to be good teammates.

June 16 to 22—Youth Works in Portland, OR. See <https://www.youthworks.com/trips/>

June 25 to 29—Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School: 9 to 11:30 a.m. Register here: <http://www.myvbs.org/srvumc/> We will go on a white-water rafting adventure to experience the ride of a lifetime with God!

July 28 to August 5—Sierra Service Project in Spokane, WA. Space is limited!

Our May Communion Offering supports Youth Missions! See Page 9 for more information.

Sunday School: Honesty

WEEK 1

Bottom Line: When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

WEEK 2

Bottom Line: When you're not truthful, you hurt others.

WEEK 3

Bottom Line: When you lie to help yourself, you hurt yourself instead.

WEEK 4

Bottom Line: Being truthful with God helps keep you close to Him.

Remember this: "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out." —*Proverbs 10:9*

Volunteer VBS and Sports Camp team members needed!

Please see the sign-up charts in the Sanctuary narthex!

Feed Middle School Youth Group on a Wednesday night!

You can still sign up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b44a4ac2da6fd0-middle>

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

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.

Contact Us!

Laura Roy

Children's and Family Ministries
(Children through Grade 5)

lroy@srvumc.org

(925)837-5243 ext 106

Jamere Crawford

Youth Director

jcrawford@srvumc.org

(925)837-5243 ext.109

Music

These choirs are free and open to everyone to participate.

Cherub Choir (PreK through 5th)

Beth McClelland

Practice Sundays 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Performances fourth Sunday each month and special events.

Youth Choir

Teri Hawk

Grades 6 to 12

Practice Sunday 10 to 11 a.m. in Conference Rm. Perform third Sunday of each month

Bros and Belles Choir

Winnie Stribling

Grades 6 to 12

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

Among Ourselves

Health Concerns...

Dave Holleman (Oregon)
Jo Ann Hirsch

Our Christian Sympathy To...

ClaudeC Johannessen and family on the death of **Rich Johannesson** on March 22. Rich will be missed by his many friends at SRVUMC.

Ken Studer and family on the death of **Linda** on April 1. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on April 20.

Howard Rodean and family on the death of **Lavonne** on April 14. Lavonne was our long-time organist before Nadia—an accomplished musician and a dear lady.

Contact Info Changes...

Nell Ryan
3345 Streamside Cir. #324
Pleasanton 94588
(925)-201-7767

Thank You...

...For the responses to my brother Tom McWilliams passing away in March. We received over 100 cards, plus phone calls and emails. Plus, we had a large attendance at His Celebration of Life, held at Lafayette Park Hotel. The cares and concerns from our church congregation are warmly appreciated. —**Thanks, Dean and Barb McWilliams**

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; Dave & Lillian Holleman; Cary Johnson; Johnny Johnston; Alleen Landstrom; Edith Liggett;

Alex Maddux; Mary Ogden; Lea Patteson; Mike Robinett; Lillian Scherer; Ann Schroeder; Pat Shoner; Jean Spencer; Carol Webb Samford; Joan Webb; Jeannine Woolery.

Name Tags

Please contact Katrina Combs in the church office if you need a new name tag (\$7/each.). With new staff and members, it's helpful if we all wear our nametags!

May Celebrations

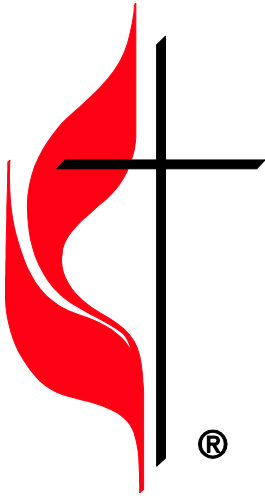
Birthdays



1 Catharine Baker	Mitzie Dew	Greg Longstreet	
Barbara Nicco	Matt Hinzle	Greg Lowe	
Bethany Pavel	Kari Mullican	Scott Ryan	Julia Leontini
2 Will Davis	Charity Pelletier	16 Lorry Dahl	25 Karen Dautel
Cheryl Morones	Sarah Pihowich	Brad Poole	Clara Malin
3 Bruce Templeton	Abby TenElshof	17 Rick Doran	Thomas Mannell
4 Sylvia Benzler	9 Burt Rodgers	Laurie Rousseu	Sara Wolfram
Floy Blair	Winnie Stribling	18 Sanjiv More'	26 Norma Jean Bunker
Alana Morgin	10 Barbara Carlson	19 Alice Impraim	Skip George
Mike Prenger	11 Louise Hanover (90)	Marla Nakaso	27 Justin Farhang
Jim Warnock	Will Maddux	20 Susan Dunn	Thomas Valdriz
5 Jan Rohde	Connor Marohn	21 Gerry Aude	28 Kay Jones (92)
Hannah Sidhom	Kathleen Wood	Bob Baker	Tom Schramm
Scott Smallwood	12 Patrick Davis	Rich Braden	Anna Templeton
Matt Yarmolilch	13 Brett Greene	Brian Dandridge	29 Jan Geahry
6 Laura Brady	Carole Johnson	Robby Kelly	30 Aksel Schmidt
Mary Jane Brusher	Jim McKnight	22 Ruth Pavlik	31 Bob Benedict
Susan Doran	Pamela Peters	23 Gary Hickson	Christa Farrow
Jean Spencer (95)	14 Saba Kanwal	Gary Krumrei	
8 Cherie Charbonneau	15 Janelle Hawkley	Rose Larkins	

Wedding Anniversaries

1 Stephanie & Jeff Leontini	18 Donna & Dave Bain	Anita Weir & Jim Ball	Stacey & Brad Judd
4 Linda Albertoni Engman & Dave Engman	20 Rhona & Mike Sherrill	27 Lillian Baker Holleman & Dave Holleman	Anne & Paul Kuelz
5 Floy & Jerry Blair (55 th)	21 Debra & Richard Carter	28 Kari & Kevin Dimler	Marilyn & Thomas Mathis
6 Kathleen & Briggs Wood	22 Lisa & John Jancarik	Amber & Matt Marx	Susan & Dale Stevenson (55 th)
8 Brenda & Darren Cowdrey	24 Willy & Charlie Adam	Alice & Roger Miller	
Marty & Jerry Osborn	Susan Pickering-Gest & Steve Gest	Barbara & Mike Nicco	
10 Nancy & Steve Garnick	Connie & Ray Winter	Karen & Scott Sanson	
12 Lisa & Edmund Glover	26 Debra Brady & Steve Veglia	30 Christy & Bruce Campbell	
14 Angela & Tom Norton (52 nd)	Meg & Bob Guldner	Heather & Doug Clay	
		Lynn & Richard Dodge	



MAY 2018

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

May 2018

Time-valued material — Deliver promptly

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