



Valley Messenger

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

AUGUST 2018

Pastor's Pulse ~

By Pastor Dan Sturdivant

In my twenties, I had stomach ulcers. My doctor suggested I take up a practice to reduce stress. "Tai Chi would be good for you," he said. I took up Tai Chi.

The class most conveniently located to me (I was living in LA at the time) was taught by a smallish man of inscrutable age and background who was, I assumed, delivered to us each class from a ledge in the Himalayas. He identified himself as Sensei Cohen. He taught Yang-style Tai Chi, the difficulty of which did not reduce my stress. It requires you to learn *forms*, each form being a series of tranquilly rendered movements meant to slow you down and focus you in, requiring an admixture of deliberateness, balance, and the kind of patience with which most mortals are ill-equipped—and I was not equipped at all. Nevertheless, I attended the two classes offered each week and practiced irregularly at home.

Skip ahead 18 months, and I had learned roughly half of the movements in the beginning form. That's about standard, I was

told. Finally, rigid with frustration and unable to maintain balance in my most recently added moves, I fell out and stalked up to Sensei Cohen, standing as if hewn from marble in front of the class where, one would assume, he was observing us. It was hard to tell. His head swiveled in my direction but not so far as to look at me.

"Can I help you?" he asked.

"Do you ever get to the point where you *don't* feel like a beginner?"

He paused for effect—maddeningly protracted effect—and returned his gaze to the practitioners. "Not if you're doing it correctly."

* * *

After my sister and I had moved out of the house, had finished college, and had established ourselves in something resembling adult independence, my folks decided to "downsize," which as it turned did not mean getting a smaller house so much as getting one with fewer bedrooms to discourage my us from moving back in.

Mom was packing those last few things that are hard to pack when she said into the now echo-y living room, "Honey? I'm

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Next Issue: September 2018

Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik newsletter@srvumc.org by August 15, 2018.

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sad. I almost had this place exactly like I wanted it." She planted her fists on her hipbones and looked around. "I still felt like we were just moving in."

This was in 2004. We'd lived there since 1970.

* * *

Both these examples hold lessons I needed and am still trying to learn.

Every day I'm a beginner starting out.

The only finish line that matters is in the running of the race.

The only home worth living in is the one that will always need work.

Two thousand years of Christianity and, as a people, Christians are toddlers at best. The faith is still under construction. The foundation's been poured but is nowhere near dry.

In our own church, we've been around for over 50 years, and we still don't have it like we want it. Look at the new Sanctuary. (Except you can't look yet. Fittingly, you'll have to wait till fall.)

I'm one of your new pastors. I've been in ministry for years, but it's been a long time since I've felt like this much of a beginner. I take comfort in two things. First, by remembering that when it comes to something as important as what we will do together, acknowledging that I'm a beginner is the right way to go about it. And, second, you all have welcomed both Pastor Kim and I and our families so warmly that it's like you've already assumed that together we will complete what we're building and cross the finish line together. By God's grace, we will.

"...let us lay aside every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that is set before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus..."

—Hebrews 12:1-2

Pastors Attend The Academy for Spiritual Formation

Rare Continuing Education Gem Held Locally This Year

By Pastor Kim Risedorff

Pastor Kim and Pastor Dan will both be attending The Academy for Spiritual Formation, a two-year continuing education experience through the organization which publishes *The Upper Room*. We were accepted into the program before we knew of our appointment to SRVUMC.

The Academy meets for five days every three months for a total of forty days per year. This year, the Academy is being held at nearby San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville. We will be close by if there is need and will also have local church leaders and area clergy on call. We welcome your prayers as we prepare for the first session, which began **Sunday, July 29** in the evening, ending on **Friday, August 3** at noon.

The Academy for Spiritual Formation provides a setting for individual and communal spiritual formation, where people can meet God. In **Acts 2:42**, those baptized "**devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.**" These four actions—teaching, fellowship, communion and prayer—form the basis for the Academy experience.

During the first session, participants learn about attentiveness to the Word (spiritual formation and scripture). In following sessions, Biblical foundations explore the spirituality of

the Hebrew community (Psalms) and the New Testament (the life of Jesus and the Christian community). Later sessions look at Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant spirituality. The final two sessions explore spiritual leadership in a global context and in sustaining life with Christ.

Afternoon sessions focus on practical/theological spirituality (how spirituality is done). The first session explores traditions of Christian spirituality. In following sessions, spiritual practices look at corporate worship, spiritual disciplines, and spiritual friendship. Formation in Christ sessions explore prayer and discernment, and spirituality and ways of healing. The final two sessions (spiritual leadership) look at local faith communities and bearing witness in the world.

The first year (sessions 1 through 4), focuses on the inward journey with Christ; the second year (sessions 5 through 8) begins to shift to outward aspects of spiritual leadership. Throughout the two years, participants engage in spiritual practices of body, mind and spirit in the context of a supportive community.

Between sessions, participants covenant to deepen their spiritual lives through journaling, spiritual direction, reading, and care of the physical body. First- and second-year covenant commitments provide a focus for spiritual growth and a focus for one's engagement in the world.

July 4, 2018

***SRVUMC Grill
Team a Crowd-
pleaser Again!***

This year's ant theme takes the parade by storm with music and dancing to involve everyone. Thanks to the Grill Team for their hard work once again.



Church Council Meeting Takeaways

July 18, 2018

Church Charge Conference approves compensation • Sanctuary and Narthex construction space • Youth chaperones needed for missions

Overview of General Fund	Jan-Jun Actual	Jan-Jun Budget	Net Budget	Fall 2018 Budget
Pledges, Gifts	587,954	576,998	10,956	1,100,000
Other Income	29,212	21,934	7,278	46,370
Total Income	617,166	598,932	18,234	1,146,370
Appointed Staff	136,154	136,548	394	275,587
Non-apptd Staff	231,897	262,501	30,604	523,718
Apportionments	58,795	58,328	(467)	111,250
Office/Property	114,081	105,541	(8,540)	219,200
Programs/Other	13,327	21,731	8,404	42,300
Total Expenses	554,254	584,649	30,395	1,172,055
Net Variance	62,912	14,283	48,629	(25,685)

Finance Committee (Bob Dominici): YTD shows ahead of plan for receivables, despite a decline in donations over the summer. Total expenses remain below plan for an overall positive variance for the year so far. Expenses are projected to finish on-target because positions have been filled on the staff. Recently, the electrical expense ballooned over projected, probably because PG&E appears to have neglected the Church's solar credit. SRVUMC expects to have that difference restored to its account by September or October.

Staff Parish Relations Committee (Don Field): Charge Conference held **June 12, 2018** reviewed and ultimately unanimously accepted the compensation packages prepared for **Pastor Kim Risedorph** and **Pastor Dan Sturdivant**. The meeting was attended by **Debra Carter, Bob Dominici, Don Field, John Green, Jim McKnight, Chuck Clark (for Mark Miller), Peter Ruotsi, Bill Rust, Terry Sherman, Fred Toney**. Minutes submitted by Church Council Secretary **John Green** include scanned copies of the forms "2018 Pastor's Compensation, Benefits and Reimbursements Report" for each.

Board of Trustees (Mark Miller): The contractor reports that construction in the Sanctuary and Narthex is proceeding on schedule. Plants have been replaced in the courtyard to

balance landscaping and water usage. Committee finances remain ahead of plan as of July 2018. Proposals have been received for AC and fresh paint in the Children's Ministry rooms. New pads have been ordered for the AED devices per regular updating. The agenda for the Board of Trustees' July 24 meeting includes a review of disaster control plans which have been in development for several months.

Strategic Plan Update (Jim McKnight): Communication remains the priority with the Strategic Plan and the Communications Task Force. The August meeting should include a presentation about efforts in this regard.

Nominations and Leadership (Fred Toney): Fred Toney and Pastor Kim have met to discuss leadership. During construction, some people have remained in positions who would have otherwise cycled out of their roles, and some posts have remained open.

Missions (Paul Kuelz): A Service and Outreach Fund is in development to support church members who develop service programs. An approval committee will assess feasibility and release funding. The fund is provided through undesignated donations to SRVUMC. The approval committee will consist of two Mission Council members, two Finance Committee members, and one at-large member will oversee and approve presented projects. To be eligible for support from the Fund, projects should be joint efforts between project owners and recipients, local in nature, and consistent with the Church Strategic Plan of Service and Growth. **Discussion about the size of the fund's budget has been tabled by the Church Council at this meeting.**

Children's Ministry (Laura Roy): Summertime drop in attendance follows typical pattern, with between five and seven children in Sunday School each week. Two new families have visited. **Debbie Byers** is no longer in her position, but **Katiana Hebbert** has been promoted to the lead Childcare Manager position as the search for a new assistant begins. Rolling River Rampage VBS saw 58 children and 25 staff for the weeklong program. This year's VBS saw an increase in preschool children enrolled, together with community involvement at both VBS and sports camp. Family Ministry **(Page 13)** kicks off fall with a picnic.

A reminder from the Board of Trustees that the Church has a written agreement with our neighbor regarding noise. We must limit noise during certain hours and should limit activity in our parking area.

Youth Ministry (Jamere Crawford): Spokane *mission currently seeking a chaperone*. Without the chaperone, our own Youth will have to tag along with a Walnut Creek group. Plans continue for the redesign of Room 206 (“Youth Room”) to reflect our Youth Ministry with photos and a painting project. **September 14 to 16 Fall Retreat is currently also seeking its chaperones.** Youth Commission to author a letter to **Terry Sherman, Debra Carter, and Pastor Kim** asking for re-designation of Room 206 as the Youth Room. There has been some sentiment that the special purpose of this space for the Youth Ministry has eroded over time.

What Do You Think?

Do you think of Room 206 in Wesley Center as the “Youth Room”?

Sanctuary Remodeling Progress Report

from Fred Toney

Presented at the July 17, 2018 Church Council meeting. Church Council meetings are held monthly and are open to all members of SRVUMC.

The pastoral staff and the Church Council believe it is important to keep our church members and friends up to date on the concept and the progress of our current remodeling project.

As you may recall, three years ago the **Board of Trustees**, under the leadership of **Mark Miller**, and with the help of an Ohio testing lab, determined that our Sanctuary roof would have to be replaced in three to four years at a sizable expense.

About the same time, the seismic stability of our Sanctuary building came into question. Our building was built in 1961 when regulations were not as stringent as they are today. Consequently, the Board of Trustees had concerns regarding the building’s stability in the event of a major earthquake.

In addition, for several years, the Board of Trustees has been working diligently trying to upgrade the front entrance to the Church to make it lighter, more up to date, and more inviting. A design, through the work of **Chuck Clark** and others, was developed and approved by the trustees and the Church Council.

Peace and Justice (Laura Sanchez): Planned events for fall include the Everyday Peacemaking series to be presented by Rev. Will McGarvey, Director of Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County (I4C). He will speak again at a different event, Courageous Conversations, later this fall. His program will build on last fall’s “Defusing Hatred” topic. Also, the Multi-faith Speaker Series commences with worship leaders from member congregations of the Interfaith Council of San Ramon Valley (I-SRV) speaking on a single theme.

All of these projects, however, had to be put on hold due to lack of funds.

Bill Sabin became aware of these needs through his work as a member of the Board of Trustees. As a result, **Bill and Nancy Sabin**, because of their love for the Lord and the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church, agreed donate the money to fund these three critical projects.

It was also proposed that if we accepted this gift and decided to begin the renovation, then we could also upgrade and solve the acoustic problems; enlarge the chancel area to allow for more flexibility in the worship services; provide better accommodations for the physically handicapped; improve the flooring and seating in the choir and the nave; and provide new high-tech audiovisual, sound, and lighting equipment.

After a number of written communications, posted artist’s renderings, and open Church Council discussion meetings, the decision was made to move ahead. Following a “town hall” meeting, several suggestions were made and addressed, and modifications have been put in place as a result.

We are currently on schedule with the construction and plan to have the project completed by the end of September.

We appreciate your patience as we move through this process, and we also feel assured that you will be excited about the result when it is completed. ***If you have additional questions please do not hesitate to talk to the pastoral staff, a trustee, or a Church Council member.***

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, September 23**. Contact **Lee Rust** at chijocol@aol.com or at **925-820-9047** for more information.

The Sodbusters are looking for volunteers to share in the upkeep of our church campus. Work with the group or fit some yardwork into your own schedule. Please contact **Gary Swanson** at garyswanson811@gmail.com or **925-437-2887**.



Valley Fire Mission in Lake County, November 11 to 17. Contact **Paul Kuelz** at paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net for more information about assisting in the fire recovery in the Middletown area.

Hurricane Harvey Mission Trip to South Texas, Corpus Christi area. Assist in recovery from one of the most damaging storms on record. We fly **Saturday, October 13** and return **Saturday, October 20**. Our group will prepare meals and stay at the First United Methodist Church in Sinton, TX. The church offers sleeping rooms with bunk beds, a kitchen, gathering areas, and a shower trailer. **Cost is \$200 plus airfare (about \$400)**. Contact **Paul Kuelz** at paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net.

Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery, February 15 to 23, 2019. This mission will be a joint trip with other churches in the Cal-Nev Conference, co-led by Leslie Carmichael of Los Altos UMC and **Paul Kuelz**. Registration begins this fall.

WORLD

Guatemala Wheelchair Distribution, January 19 to 26, 2019. We return to volunteer at a hospital/long-term care facility to distribute wheelchairs in Antigua and Guatemala City. Watch for registration information in September.

Mission Memories...



Volunteers from San Ramon Valley UMC sorted donations at the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano in July. Lee Rust organizes these regular volunteer missions suitable for families to do together. See above for info about our next opportunity.

Thanks to Carole Lynne Keller for this photo.

Mission Volunteers & Communion Giving

June 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	\$1,560
Jun	African University – Conference Trinity Center	\$200 \$1,825
July	Monument Crisis Center STAND Against Violence	\$1,279 \$1,279
Totals		\$18,595



It's been fun, but they're "Dunn."

Thanks to Jerry Ricker for these photos from Ron's retirement party. Top left: Ron and Susan take in the show; Top right: Pastor Lorraine says a few words; Bottom: some of the volunteers who worked hard to bring off a great time!





ARC All-church Time

For church families and their guests on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 3 to 5 p.m. No charge to play!

Have Fun and Keep Fit **Pickleball in the ARC!** Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. or Sundays 3 p.m.

An enthusiastic group of church pickleball players meets in the ARC to try to hit a wiffleball over the net, within the lines, and out of reach of the opposing players with a bat that is way too small for some of us. This is not difficult if you are athletic, like **Keith Wesselschmidt**, or skillful, like **Donna Lindquist**, but ambitious for the rest of us. All levels are welcome, and we need more players to fill the three courts available.



Pickleball Skills Need Help?

Thursdays 1 to 2 p.m. or 2 to 3 p.m.

Contact **Rusty Lent** about lessons at lentfam@yahoo.com or (925) 676-9148.

Drop-ins are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$5 per person.

You can still drop in for summer basketball until August 13. Play Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday between 1 and 4 p.m. for \$5/person.



We had a great week at Rolling River Rampage VBS. Every day we had the opportunity to experience the ride of a lifetime with God. Through crafts, science, recreation, snacks and Bible stories the children learned that no matter what, God is with them. We had 58 children here ages 3 through 5th grade. Fun was had by all! A big thank-you to the amazing staff! Their energy, love and enthusiasm was a blessing to our church and the community!

August Communion Offering

Our August communion offering will support the Wheelchair Foundation Mission trip slated for early 2019. We will again be delivering 100 wheelchairs in Antigua and Guatemala City, but we need your support. Each wheelchair costs \$150 delivered to each respective location, where we will personally present them to each deserving individual. We will combine with Asbury UMC in Livermore and Lynnewood UMC in Pleasanton on this mission trip. Below is a reprint of the March 2017 article about the details of this rewarding and heartfelt event.

Changing Lives in Guatemala



Imagine, if you will, never having walked due to a birth deformity; losing a leg to diabetes or other health challenge; or being disabled in a tragic accident...and suddenly the gift of mobility comes into your life. That was the blessing we offered to many during our wheelchair mission to Guatemala in January 2017. Now, we have the chance to return.

Through the generous donations of the **Asbury, Lynnewood and the San Ramon Valley United Methodist churches**, a team from those churches traveled to Guatemala to distribute 100 wheelchairs in partnership with the Wheelchair Foundation and the Rotary Club of Guatemala City.

This was a remarkable opportunity to engage with families that had no means to purchase a wheelchair. They carried, carted or hobble-walked a family member everywhere. Our recipients included disabled and mobility challenged children, adults and seniors.

Our first delivery in 2017 was to Virgen Del Socorro in Antigua. This long-term care facility, run by the Franciscan Order of the Catholic Church, is for children and adults with permanent disabilities who will never go home. Many of these are children and young adults who suffer from cerebral paralysis. Their care is provided free of charge.



While in Antigua, we also visited the Hospital of Santo Hermano Pedro, a charity hospital that turns no one away and only charges what a person can afford. This Franciscan hospital provides medical services by local staff and travelling physicians from around the world. We were blessed to meet a doctor from the U.S., who was there for two weeks performing orthopedic surgeries. We were particularly touched by how children with cleft palates, club feet and other congenital deformities received help and hope.

Our second donation was to a senior community, Hogar Margarita Cruz Ruiz, in Guatemala City. Established by three sisters, this home, a lovely converted hacienda, provides compassionate care to elderly women who have no place else to go. It was amazing to see mobility limited women slip into their new wheelchair for the first time. Previously, the staff would physically carry these patients to meals, chapel and open space. Our hearts leapt with joy as we experienced this moment. It is a level of dignity they so deserve.



Our largest distribution was at an event in Guatemala City sponsored by the Rotary Club. It was overwhelming to walk into an outdoor pavilion filled with anxious families selected to receive a wheelchair. One by one, each family was called to the front to accept the wheelchair. One by one, we collectively celebrated the grateful, beaming recipient and their family. It was one of the most heartwarming moments you can imagine and one of the most humbling.

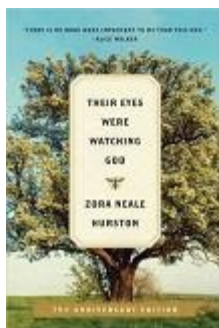
We delivered what seemed like an endless stream of wheelchairs. To see a very young boy experience mobility for the first time in his life, brought tears to our eyes. This little boy had only known life as his loving and patient mother carried him, on her back. Adults who had lost a leg, or seniors who could no longer walk on their own, were simply grateful beyond words. As our host, Alejandro, said, “You changed many lives today.” My goodness, we did, with great love, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Afternoon Book Group

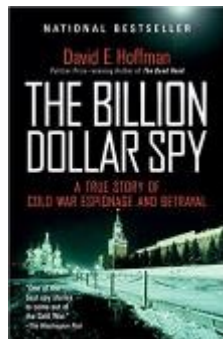
Mondays, 1 p.m.

Rm. 202, Wesley Center

August 20—*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston (Marilyn leading)



September 17—*The Billion Dollar Spy* by David Hoffman (Debbie leading)



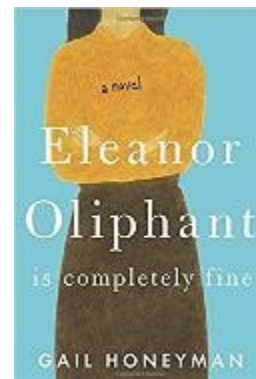
Morning Book Group

August 22, 10 a.m.

Library, Wesley Center

The Morning Book Group meets the fourth Wednesday of the month. This summer, the reading choice for August is:

***Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman**



Peace and Justice Committee: Points to Ponder

Service/Mercy: Take a gunshot victim to hospital.
Justice: Advocate for solutions to gun violence.



Wow! What a crazy spring and summer filled with change. Hope you are coping well. If you have questions or are struggling with all the change at our dear church, please call or email me. I am happy to visit or chat! **Nancy Benvenuto 925-784-1955** or Nancy@NancyBenvenuto.com. Change is hard—reach out.

One event in August! Tuesday, August 14—End of Summer BBQ for our Prime Time Group!
Traditional BBQ: **John Sanders** will not disappoint!

Looking forward to fall:

Tuesday, September 4—Prime Time Potluck and Presentation

Warren McGuffin will play bluegrass and tell the history of bluegrass music.

Tuesday, September 18—Prime Time Lunch with Friends

Chef John Sanders will serve fresh fish and chips, British-style with vinegar and tartar sauce!



Between the Bookends



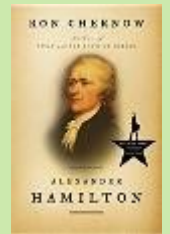
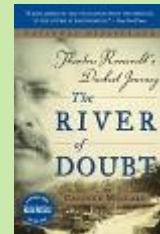
By Paula Boswell

Did You Know?

There's a right way to borrow from the Book Cart! The Book Cart needs **your contact info** and **which title** you are borrowing.

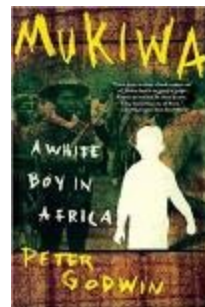
Please, please, readers, when you check out a book from our library shelves or cart, do write your name and phone # on the card in the back and drop it in the designated box. **Two of our fascinating books of historical fiction are missing without a trace: *River of Doubt* and *Alexander Hamilton*.**

The library staff would greatly appreciate your returning these classics and any other church library books you may have lying around.



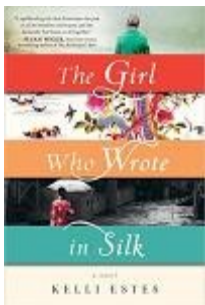
Kiernan, Denise, *The Last Castle*. Starting in America's Gilded Age, this book tells the story of George Vanderbilt's resolution to build a great house in North Carolina on property with arresting views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Vanderbilt succeeds in most of his desires with the erecting of Biltmore House, with perhaps his greatest achievement being his contribution to the

science of reforestation. Despite some sorrows and setbacks, with his devoted wife Edith, Vanderbilt touches the lives of not only the wealthy but also of many common people, greatly influencing our American culture.



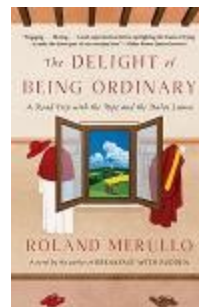
Godwin, Peter, *Mukiwa, A White Boy in Africa*. Mukiwa is a wild, pink African fig. It's also the word Africans used for the white English colonists of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe.) This book is the memoir of Peter Godwin, who grew up in Rhodesia. It chronicles his experiences in this chaotic place that is slowly descending into war. The book contains many unusual

and gripping tales and gives great insight into the struggles between the black and white citizens of Rhodesia.



Estes, Kelli, *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk*. On Orcas Island in the Pacific Northwest, a modern woman, Inara, prepares to turn an old family home she has inherited into a hotel. While remodeling, she discovers an ancient embroidered sleeve which sets off a string of events that affect many lives. Alternating between the tragic story

of Mei Lien, a young Chinese woman in the late nineteenth century, and that of Inara, this book explores the damage of racism and the effect of one's actions, both good and bad, on later generations.



Merullo, Roland, *The Delight of Being Ordinary: A Road Trip With the Pope and the Dalai Lama*. If you've read the meals with Buddha series, then you must read Merullo's latest fantasy. During a visit of the Dalai Lama to Pope Francis, they sneak out, incognito, into the countryside with the help of Paolo, the Pope's cousin and first aide. While they take in scenery

and enjoy the local cuisine, a national manhunt begins. The book is amusing yet thought-provoking, at times philosophical with spiritual insights. A true delight!



You can't buy happiness, but you can buy books, and that's kind of the same thing.

—Anonymous

SRVUMC Golf Outing

Boundary Oaks in Walnut Creek

Saturday, September 15, 10:40 a.m.



All golfers welcome! Four-person scramble. Contact **Paul Kuelz** at 925-831-3128 or email paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net for more info. Sign-ups begin in August in the courtyard between services.

Did You Know?



Youth Director Jamere Crawford is closing in on his first anniversary with SRVUMC!

Summer Announcement

MEN, MEN, MEN OF ALL AGES!

Annual SRVUMC Men's Fall Retreat

Senior men, big boys, young men—gather 'round!

The annual SRVUMC Men's Fall Retreat—camping, fishing, hiking, photography, reading and fellowship—is coming this fall.

Early Birds: Arrival any time **Thursday, October 4** (Enjoy an extra day, a special dinner, and first choice for campsites or bunks)

Regular Arrivals: Any time prior to **5 p.m. Friday, October 5.**

Late Arrivals OK. The retreat will conclude **Sunday, October 7**, with an outdoor church service followed by cold cuts for lunch.

This annual SRVUMC Men's fall retreat is held at Crawfords' Quail Run Ranch some 35 miles northeast of Red Bluff and west of Mt. Lassen. There will be activities around a retreat theme, stories, music, sharing and poems around the campfire, and plenty of free time for other activities.

- Good Eats! **Quentin's** Famous Cuisine!
- Good Music! **Warren's** Pickin'
- Good Programs! **Lyn Arscott**
- Good Fellowship! **Everyone**
- Fee including meals:
 - \$75.00 (Regular Arrivals)
 - \$70.00 (Early Arrivals)



For more information and/or to register, contact **Horace Crawford** at 925-324-8040 or hcrawpcraw@gmail.com

Car pools will be available. ***Please send your fee directly to Jerry Ricker by September 1, 2018.***



Calendar

September 9—Family BBQ at Hap Magee, 3 to 5 p.m. for families of children birth through grade 5. Join us for a relaxing barbecue to kick off the new school year. Hap Magee has everything—a great play and water feature area with lots of room for fun! We have secured some picnic tables. We will supply hot dogs, drinks, chips, salad and shaved ice. Donations accepted to cover the cost. RSVP to lroy@srvumc.org

September 14 through 16—Fall retreat for Youth at Monte Toyon in Santa Cruz.

October 27 – Trunk or Treat, 5 to 7 p.m.

December 2 – Advent Festival, 12 to 1:30 p.m.

Help! The Youth mission to SSP in Spokane, WA still needs a chaperone!

Dates are July 28 through August 5. Trained SSP counselors lead the program: your job is to be an adult.

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.

Confirmation classes begin in the fall with the school year. Watch for more info.

Photo Contest Coming Soon!

Photos from any Youth activity are eligible. Photos will be enlarged and framed for the Youth Room remodel!



Sunday School

Week One: Jesus Grows in Wisdom

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, search for wisdom.

Week Two: Wise People See Danger

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, look before you leap.

Week Three: Rehoboam Listens to Fools

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, hang out with wise people.

Week Four: Trust in the Lord

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, trust God to give you wisdom.

Memory Verse: “If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you.”
—James 1:5

Every Sunday

9 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday school meets

K to Grade 5: Lamm Hall

Grades 6 to 12: Room 202 (teachers, assistants and snacks still needed for August! Check <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090549aba82c7-youth> to see if you can help.

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

September 10 through November 14 Play, Snack and Study!

Afternoons at the ARC

Mondays and Wednesdays, 3 to 5 p.m.

Grades 3 through 8

- Gym games
- Homework help
- Healthy snacks

Cost is \$25 for 11 weeks. Sign-ups coming in August.

This new after-school opportunity for the community means we will need help with tutoring in the study hall from 4 to 5 p.m. Email Laura Roy for more information.

Among Ourselves

Health Concerns...

Julie Dastic Bill Schneider
Edith Liggett Carol Sayers
Gail Soldavini

Continued Prayers For...

All those who continue to Lea Patteson; Lillian Scherer;
live with long-term illness, Ann Schroeder; Joan Webb;
unemployment, life deci- Jeannine Woolery.
sions, and sickness in their
families: Johnny Johnston;

Our Christian Sympathy To...

The family of **Jean Spencer**, whose memorial is planned for August 11 in Lafayette.

Name Tags

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

August Anniversaries

1 Sandy & Chuck Clark (54 th)	13 Jennifer & Jim Ludlam	Shirley & Jerry Slater (63 rd)	Julie & Bill Dastic (58 th)
3 Gloria Holleman & Gary Osterhout	17 Stephanie & John Feno- glio	21 Maggie & John Stienstra	Thelma & John Orr, Sr. (57 th)
Dolores & Thomas Mulli- can	Sharon & Dennis Greene	Sandy & Paul Yarmolich	28 Louise & Brad Farrow
Mary & Bill Nelson (61 st)	Heather & John Morgan	24 Carol & Jim Warnock	29 Millie & Terry Sherman (54 th)
5 Lea & Tim Hickman	Nancy & Al Tiedemann	Karen & Larry Watson (55 th)	30 Carole & Don Johnson (60 th)
7 Alexis & Niles Bybel	19 Susie & Doug Barton	25 Nancy & Quentin Alexan- der (61 st)	Maria & Stuart Kirby
Caroline & Steve Marsh	Marilyn & Todd Christian (57 th)	Sylvia & John Corson (61 st)	
8 Gemma & Tom Sepull	20 Barbara & Don Carlson	27 Sylvia & Bruce Benzler	
	Julie & Al Shipp		

August Celebrations

Birthdays



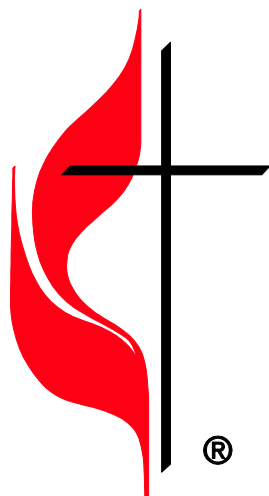
1 Don Carlson	Jason Skeoch	Olivia White	
Michael Cerda	Gary Swanson	23 Jeremy Brown	
Wai Chang	Sarah Warnock	John Fenoglio	
Chuck Clark	12 Scott Birkby	Chris Kelly	
Chris Hagebush	Julie Klug	Nick Rossi	
Geoff Portman	Heather Weis	Mike Sherrill	
Marti Sketchley	14 David Bain	24 Mandy Bain	
2 Susie McKnight	Bette Smith	Megan Bain	Jeff Presnell
3 Kim Maddux	15 Steve Beagles	Ron White	31 Sean Greenwood
Amy McWilliams Hess	Dolores Mullican	25 Peg Jackson	Sheila McClelland (91 st)
Brett McKnight	16 Joyce Kayser	Shirley Wible	
Courtney Randall	Andy Mathis	26 Charlie Adam (94 th)	
4 Scott Armanini	Jenny Swanson	Chris Knese	
Teresa Merchant	17 Dominic Albertoni	Duncan Miller	
Julie Shipp	Matt Donatelli	Anna TenElshof	
5 Mary Mitchell	Thomas Mathis	Jeannine Woolery	
Sarah Schroeder	19 Dick Greeno	27 Carole Lynne Keller	
6 Tom Andrew	Jennifer Ludlam	Marilyn Mathis	
7 Meghan Bennion	Sophie Ludlam	28 Sharon Brockman	
Lindsey Garnick	Merilyn Milam	Rikki Robinson	
Scott Garnick	Jeanie Rheault (94 th)	29 Nell Marie Forsey	
8 Kelli George	Marla Schleicher	Bob Korinke	
Jerry Osborn	Talia Stivender	30 Victoria da Roza	
Dan Woolery	20 Robin Hammond	Joanie Deis	
9 Allyson Cerda	Carol Koepp		
10 Jim Bunker	21 Pam Dominici		
Cadi Stephenson	Kelly Kerr		
Carol Warnock	Ford Higgins		
11 Sung Ahn	22 Deanna Clark		
Brian Beck	Alleen Landstrom (97 th)		

Whew! August is a big month around here!

In case you didn't spot them, August Wedding Anniversaries list fit better on the Among Ourselves page this month!

Congratulations to our numerous celebrants this month!

AUGUST 2018



Worship Schedule

Traditional Worship, 9:00 a.m. in Wesley Center

Non-Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m., in Wesley Center

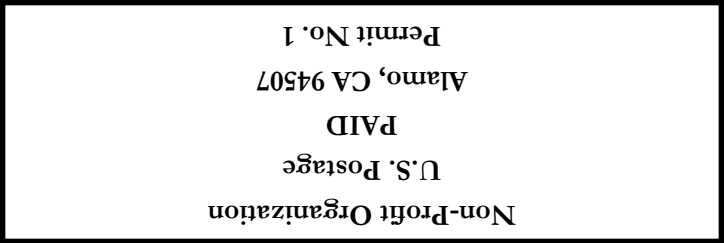
Child Care for birth-kindergarten is available during the morning services in the

Children's Building

August 2018

Time-valued material — Deliver promptly

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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United Methodist Church
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Alamo, CA 94507