



# Valley Messenger

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

**OCTOBER 2018**

*Pastor's Pulse ~*

## **Church Under Construction: Discernment**

Even when the construction on our sanctuary is complete—most likely by the middle of October—we're still going to be a church under construction. Christianity has been under construction since Jesus rose, and I can't conceive that we will ever be finished with it. Maybe it's more accurate to say it will never be finished with us. We are the ones who are constantly being rebuilt, re-formed, born all over again. Creation is ongoing.

The Church will always be under construction because, like creation, history is ongoing. It doesn't stop. We may be the agents of history, but at the same time we're always trying to catch up to it. Some of this is surely due to the fact that more often than not our immediate responses to the forces of history pay no heed to how God is calling us to respond. A good example of this is our government's response to the failures of our immigration policy. We need a sound policy to manage the social costs of the influx of non-citizens. Obviously. It is safe to say that an appeal to God's desire for us to love the foreigner (for we were once foreigners in Egypt; **Deut 10:19, Ex 22:21**, et al.) would not include separating children from their mothers. It will always be the task of faithfulness to seek first the kingdom of God.

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***Next Issue: November 2018***

*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 October 15, 2018.*

Even when we do we're likely to get it wrong, at least at first. If we don't, we're sure to blow it.

Throughout October **Pastor Kim** and I will be exploring both the task of discernment and where we need to apply our discernment in our sermon series, "**A Church Under Construction.**" All of us want to know what's being asked of us as a faith community two decades in to the twenty-first century.

\* \* \*

I'm like most of you. I toss and turn that our church, like most mainline churches, is losing more constituents than we're picking up. We know people still have spiritual needs, and they need fulfilling. What we don't know is why we're not in a position to fulfill them. We are all looking for what to do to reel them in. If only we could get them in here, so they could see all the great things we have on offer, our beautiful facility, our great music and our children's ministries. If only they could see

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how many small groups we have and how varied they are, surely they'd sign up. Or if they came to the ARC. Or maybe if we had more information about them, then we could let them know the opportunities we have for them to serve. Maybe it's a marketing problem, a deficit in our "curb appeal." Perhaps it's social media, and we need a more active online presence and a dazzling website.

It might be that if we could show more people all these things, then they would join our faith community. It's also true that other churches have done all these things, but their numbers still decline. It might be that what we have and what we are doing is not enough or that it's not hitting the mark God needs us to hit.

It occurs to me that one step we need to take in discerning where God is calling us is to step back and spend a moment admitting that we don't know what to do. Let us ask if our own spiritual needs are being met. Let us ask ourselves and one another why we want our church to grow. Let us have a frank look in the mirror to see if we have been setting our own spiritual longings aside for the sake of increasing numbers.

It occurs to me that for a time we may need to ask not what God needs us to do, but who God is calling us to be. A people spiritually fed will have food available for all who are hungry.

### ***Pastor Dan***

## **October Worship at SRVUMC**

As we look forward to moving into our renovated Sanctuary, our October sermon series will be ***A Church Under Construction***. We'll be exploring what it means to be a vibrant faith community in the 21st century.

### **October 7: World Communion Sunday**

We are a global Church. How do we maintain diversity without division as we gather around the table?

### **October 14: Prayer: More than Holding a Good Thought**

We live in a world where anxiety, stress, and addiction are epidemic. What is the Church's response? Prayer! We'll explore what it is and what it isn't.

### **October 21: Pastor Dan Preaches: The Blueprint of Incarnation**

Are we constructing a Church for us to inhabit? Or are we being re-constructed to incarnate the Church?

### **October 28: Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity**

We begin our stewardship season by being grateful for what we have.

## Church Council Meeting Takeaways

September 18, 2018

**CPR/AED training for ushers and staff • August income 78% of budgeted • Preparing for Charge Conference November 4**

**Finance Committee (Bob Dominici):** Results from August still shows a **Total Income** surplus as a lingering effect, but income for August was actually 78% of budgeted. Preschool income contributes again beginning in September at \$2.2K per month. **Total Expenses** for August were \$51.7K favorable to plan, largely owing to staffing considerations. **Apportionments** are slightly under plan for YTD to match **Pledges and Gifts** income. **Office and Property** expense is \$9.4K over the YTD budget. The most significant variable is above budget was the \$13.7K payment to PG&E prior to the September true-up for solar power generated by the campus' panels. The latest PG&E bill, received in September, provides a \$3.2K credit or a net electrical billing of \$10.5K YTD. The electrical cost level remains problematic against an annual electrical budget of \$5K. Other problematic expenses are Technical Maintenance, Utilities-Fire Inspection and Janitorial Expenses, which combined fall \$5.4K over budget YTD. Under **Programs**, most activities are under budget, possibly resulting from delayed billing or assumed timing of the budgeted activities.

	Jan-Aug YTD	Jan-Aug YTD BUDGET
<b>Pledges/Gifts</b>	\$725,683	\$718,664
<b>Other Income</b>	\$30,382	\$25,542
<b>Total Income</b>	\$756,065	\$744,203
<b>Appointed Staff</b>	\$176,024	\$182,888
<b>Non App. Staff</b>	\$310,303	\$348,799
<b>Apportionments</b>	\$70,651	\$72,704
<b>Office/Property</b>	\$149,720	\$140,313
<b>Programs/Other</b>	\$14,362	\$28,060
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$721,061	\$772,764
<b>Net Variance</b>	\$35,004	(\$28,558)

Of note, the management of Communion Offerings from month to month has been codified into more formal rules. Monies designated for a month's organization will be pooled over a two-week period before provided to the selected organization. The goal of this policy is to better allow late offerings to reach the designated group for the Communion gift, rather than occasionally being pooled into a general fund.

**Staff Parish Relations (Don Field):** California minimum wage rises to \$12/hour for non-exempt employees and \$49,920/year for exempt employees as of January 1, 2019. Raises for non-appointed staff will be based on performance.

**Motion:** To increase wages for non-appointed staff in keeping with the California minimum wage as needed. Also move to budget for pay increases for non-appointed staff. Payroll budget depends on the giving level of the congregation. **Motion PASSED.**

**Fred Shriver** will replace **Don Field** at the Church Council meetings representing SPRC next month. The Council wishes to thank Don for his four years of service in this capacity and looks forward to Fred's efforts at coming meetings.

**Board of Trustees (Mark Miller):** A large tree branch fell in the northwest parking lot area, damaging the fence. The tree has been removed, and estimates are being taken to trim other trees, particularly those behind Wesley Center and the pre-school.

A leak discovered outside the Fireside Room has been fixed. It was traced to an original pipe from the parsonage. The Sanctuary and Narthex roofing is on schedule. The BoT is still evaluating practical use of Children's Ministry rooms during the week. CPR/AED training of ushers and staff is tentatively scheduled for October 13.

**Motion:** that when a Church activity or group rents a vehicle that the group pay for the collision coverage through the rental agency. **Motion PASSED.**

**Strategic Plan (Jim McKnight):** Next meeting scheduled for October 2.

**Nominations and Leadership (Fred Toney):** Charge Conference occurs November 4, and the Nomination and Leadership Committee is seeking names of people who can step into some of the roles that need filling.

**Children's Ministry Report (Laura Roy):** The Hap Magee BBQ saw 35 attendees, several from preschool. The big October event is Trunk or Treat (*see Page 12 for details!*). New groups are starting. About 12 children have signed up for Afternoons at the ARC, with typical attendance so far of four to six. Thanks to **Peggy Crawford, Kristian Hansen** and **Judi Bauerlein** for their homework help! **Beth McKnight** has also started the "Kids Give Back" service club (*see Page 12 for details!*). So far, ten children have signed up, and four projects are planned. Some kids are part of member families, but others attended VBS or Sports Camp who are not current church members. Also starting in October: "Mom, Pop and Tots" and small group "Parents of Young Children" (*see the Family Ministries page for more info on each*).

**Peace and Justice Report (Laura Sanchez):** The committee is planning a League of Women Voters presentation in October on California's November ballot propositions. The Peace and Justice Committee also observes that the United Methodist Church will decide in February on its recommendations to the 2020 General Conference regarding the official position of our denomination concerning ordination, performance of clergy of marriages, etc. of LGBTQ people. The committee recommends that we have discussion on this matter at SRVUMC.

**Pastors' Issues (Pastor Dan):** The 2020 General Conference for the United Methodist Church will address the topic of the Church's relationship with LGBTQ people. Historically, the Church doctrine has not allowed performance of same-sex marriages, for example. On February 23, 2019, the Charge Conference votes on the plan to support for the 2020 General Conference. Set an alarm for 2:23 to say a prayer for guidance to the Conference. Pastors of this circuit are concerned about the struggles facing our church around these issues and are considering ways to present being considered.

The **new attendance cards** have been rolled out, and returns are higher than usual. Response has been positive so far.

## What Is Charge Conference?

At the annual charge conference, a Church council meets with its district superintendent, clergy and leadership. The Book of Discipline calls for annual meetings of this kind.

- **SPRC** makes its recommendations regarding compensation.
- **Finance Committee** prepares a budget.
- **Nominations and Leadership Committee** recommends members to fill key lay leadership roles, including some for the Church council itself.

The lay leader and the council work with the pastors to develop Church conference reports. Ultimately, the point of your local Church's charge conference is to examine its goals for the coming year and plan their implementation. See <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org> for more general explanation about this important Church function.

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# SAN RAMON VALLEY CHORALE

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**December 2 and December 9 at 4 p.m.**  
**Performed at San Ramon Valley UMC**

Many of you have enjoyed past concerts by the SRV Chorale, conceived in 2016, directed by **Bruce Koliha** and accompanied by **Nadia Blank-Koliha**. The Chorale is comprised of a blend of talented alumni from local high schools, as well as accomplished singers from religious and community organizations. Our varied repertoire is classical, eclectic, and challenging.

**We will be selling ad space in our concert program**, providing an opportunity for business owners to sponsor this all-volunteer group who strives to keep quality music alive in the San Ramon Valley: business card \$50; half page \$75; full page \$125; back cover \$350.

Contact **Shannon Dever** for more information: 925-743-3068 or [shannondever62@gmail.com](mailto:shannondever62@gmail.com).



# October Communion Offering



## World Communion Sunday

Six churchwide special Sundays mark the United Methodist calendar, and each year, the United Methodist Church celebrates World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday of October. This year, October 7 will be the day our own church joins with other Christians from a range of denominations to celebrate our unity.

World Communion Sunday was first observed in 1933 at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA. Several years later, in 1940, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, including predecessor denominations for the modern United Methodist Church, adopted the observance into its own calendar. Since that time, the celebration has been adopted by followers of Jesus worldwide, from a range of churches.

The offering collected on World Communion Sunday goes to fund scholarships with these agencies (per <http://www.umcsgiving.org/question-articles/world-communion-sunday-faq>):

**World Communion Scholarships:** 50%, with at least half of the amount collected annually supporting students outside the U.S.; these scholarships fund students pursuing their master's or doctoral work at universities or seminaries. Candidates for these scholarships are deemed likely to offer at least five years of service to their churches or communities after graduation.

**Ethnic Scholarship Program:** 35%; The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry oversees applications for a host of scholarships supporting students from a variety of backgrounds.

**Ethnic In-Service Training Program:** 15%; Administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry for Ethnic Leadership and Development, these funds support students seeking roles in lay leadership or clergy throughout the United Methodist Church. These one-time grants cover expenses related to recruitment, training and mentoring, or retention.

See [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org) or [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org) for more information.



SRVUMC Women's Retreat 2019



"More Than Enough"

**Save the date!**

## **2019 SRVUMC Women's Retreat**

**February 1 to 3, 2019**

**Villa Maria del Mare, Santa Cruz**

**"More Than Enough"**

Led by Pastor Kathi McShane

Registration Sunday **November 4 and 11** in Wesley Center

More details to come!

## **Regular Events at the ARC**

**ARC All-Church Family Free Time:** Bring your friends and family and join in the fun at the ARC! **No Charge.**

Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Sundays, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

### **ARC Drop-In Basketball.**

Make some time in your week for good times and good health with pick-up hoops.

Saturdays, 5 to 7 p.m., \$4/person.



## **Peace and Justice Committee**

**October 15, 1:30 p.m.**

**Church Library**

***Join us! P&J meets the third Monday of each month in the library.***

Help us plan and implement worthwhile causes. Justice is the quality of being just, impartial or fair, and we try to enact this principle or ideal in our programs.



**\*The ARC is the new gym at SRVUMC, 902 Danville BLVD., Alamo, CA.**

## **Mondays and Wednesdays**

**3 to 5 p.m.**

**September 10 through November 14**

**\$25 for 10 weeks.**

Sign up online at [srvumc.org](http://srvumc.org) or visit the ARC office.

***Enjoy...***

- Gym games (dodge ball, volleyball, four square and more)
- Healthy snacks
- Homework help



# Adult Class on the Spiritual Brain

**Sundays at 10:30 a.m.**

**Fireside Room**

**David Coombs** is leading an ongoing class centered each week on a 30-minute video and other materials germane to that week's topic. The class is based on a 24-part video series of the same name presented by Dr. Andrew Newberg. Dr. Newberg is a renowned brain researcher and has spent much of his adult life examining humans' quest for spirituality and the role the brain plays in the quest. Each class will begin with a 30-minute

video from Dr. Newberg followed by discussion. In addition to Dr. Newberg's video, David will introduce material from Barbara Bradley Hagerty's book *Fingerprints of God* and William R. Miller's book *Quantum Change*.

Is the brain hardwired to experience God? What is happening in the brain when we have transformative insights or mystical experiences? Why do these experiences happen when we least expect them? These are some of the questions Dr. Newberg will answer during this exciting lecture series.

Sign up with David at [dfcassoc@comcast.net](mailto:dfcassoc@comcast.net) for this engaging topic so he can email you in advance with the material to be covered each week.

***Oil the Sewing Machine and Fill the Candy Molds! It's Time To Get Ready for SRVUMC's***

**11th Annual**

**Holiday Boutique Craft Fair**

**Saturday, November 10, 2018**

**9 to 3 p.m.**

Crafters, start preparing for the show featuring treasures created by our own church folk and members of the community! For the past ten years, we have consistently shown high-quality handmade items, such as

- Jewelry
- Quilted table linens
- Handmade shawls & sweaters
- Fused glass ornaments
- Handmade caramels
- Silk floral arrangements, and more!



If you have creative talents, we need you! It's time to reserve a space and get busy creating works of art or tasty treats. **A space fee of \$35 and 10% of your total sales will be donated to the church.** Let's bring out all our hidden talents and make the 11th Annual Craft Fair the best yet!

Contact **Shannon Dever** at [shannon-dever62@gmail.com](mailto:shannon-dever62@gmail.com) for information or to sign up. *Friends and family welcome!*



# Upcoming Mission Opportunities

## LOCAL

**October 14 – CROP Walk in Walnut Creek**—Read more or make a donation at: [www.crophungerwalk.org/walnutcreekca](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/walnutcreekca). Our Mission Council arranged this event. To learn more about this walk and the program, please contact **Paul Kuelz** at [paulkuelz@sbcglobal.com](mailto:paulkuelz@sbcglobal.com).



**November 11 to 17—Wildfire Recovery in Lake County, CA.** Contact **Paul Kuelz** at [paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net) for more information about assisting in the fire recovery in the Middletown area.

## WORLD

**October 13 to 20—Hurricane Harvey Recovery.** 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](mailto:paulkuelz@sbcglobal.net).

**November 4—Rise Against Hunger meal-packing event.** See below.

**January 19-26, 2019—Guatemala Wheelchair Trip.** We will be returning to Guatemala to volunteer at a hospital and to distribute wheelchairs in January 2019. In addition, we will be taking medicine and medical supplies to donate to Salud Y Paz. Salud Y Paz is a non-profit group of medical and dental clinics serving the indigenous people of Guatemala. Long supported by the United Methodist Church, these clinics provide healthcare not otherwise available.

We will be collecting the medicine and supplies in October or November. The Guatemala Mission Team will then work on sorting and preparing the donation for transport. ***Please see the next page for a list of requested supplies, and then drop off donations in the church office.***



## Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event

**November 4, 2018, After the Single (9 a.m.) Service**

SRVUMC volunteers have participated in lively meal pack-outs before. On those dates, church members packed over 10,000 meals in a little over 90 minutes. On November 4, we aspire to pack even more. This satisfying project requires \$0.29 per meal to fund the raw materials such as dehydrated rice/soy meal, dehydrated vegetables and spices. To sponsor the pack-out, we have a goal of raising \$5800 for 20,000 meals. ***The upcoming pack-out has space for eighty volunteers and is appropriate for families with children old enough to follow directions.***

These meal packets will be sent to partner schools in developing countries, who serve these hot meals to their students. A daily hot meal provided at school for each child serves as an important incentive for parents in these regions to send their children to school. Improved school attendance and nutrition assist in breaking the cycle of poverty for these families.

Rise Against Hunger began as Stop Hunger Now! in 1998 and is based in Raleigh, N.C. This organization and its volunteers has provided over 414 million meals in 74 countries around the world. Learn more about the impact of this inspiring organization at <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/our-impact/>.



## Donation List for Salud y Paz Clinic

*Note that, while example brand names are noted, generic or drug chain house brands are perfectly fine and are often more economical.*

**Antidiarrheal medicine** – bismuth 262mg, (e.g., Kaopectate, PeptoBismol)

**Nausea medicine** – dimenhydrinate 50mg, (e.g., Dramamine, Gravol)

**Stomach medicine** – omeprazole 20mg, (e.g., Prilosec)

**Pain reliever** – acetaminophen 200 or 500mg adults, 160mg kids (e.g., Tylenol)

**Pain reliever** – ibuprofen 200mg (e.g., Aleve, Advil, Motrin)

**Antihistamine** – cetirizine 10mg (e.g., Zyrtec)

**Antacids** – calcium carbonate 500mg (e.g., Tums)

**Hemorrhoidal Treatment** – suppositories (e.g., Preparation H)

**Earwax Removal** – ear drops, carbamide peroxide 6.5% (e.g., Debrox)

**Antifungal cream** – miconazole 2% cream (e.g., Micatin, Tinactin, Monistat)

**Lubricating Eye Drops**

**Kids Vitamins** – *No Gummies!*

**Prenatal Vitamins**

**Ziploc Bags** – any size (snack, sandwich, quart, gallon, two gallon)

**Exam Gloves** – any size



## Calling All Actors!

A newly forming Drama Club is shouting out a **casting call** to act in a Christmas play on **December 1 and again on December 9**. Join us to review the script and take your place on stage. Meeting dates to be announced. Many parts have little to no speaking roles, so don't be shy. **Call Debbie Hammond (925-820-2054) or Kay Jones (925-837-5702) for more information.** Let's give our Wesley stage some action!

## Gentle Yoga With Allison Gannon Mondays and Fridays 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Fireside Room



We will explore the balance of effort and relaxation through classic yoga postures and breathwork to invite serenity and inner peace. Classes focus on deep breathing, stretching, releasing tension and building strength, balance and flexibility. Gentle yoga moves slowly, emphasizing correct alignment and offering modifications and variations to accommodate all levels of yoga students from beginners to experienced practitioners and anyone healing from an injury. All levels are welcome. Join at any time—no need to sign up for a full series!

**Please bring a yoga mat, yoga blanket or large towel, two blocks and a strap.** Some props are provided.

**Class Cards:** 10 classes: \$135; 20 classes: \$235

**Drop-in single class** \$15

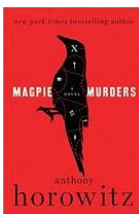
To sign up, contact **Allison** at [yogawithallison@att.net](mailto:yogawithallison@att.net) or call **925-200-5958**.

## Afternoon Book Group

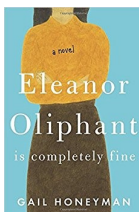
**Mondays, 1 p.m.**

**Room 202, Wesley Center**

**October 15—Magpie Murders** by Anthony Horowitz (Ruth leading)



**November 19—Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine** by Gail Honeyman (Sharon leading)





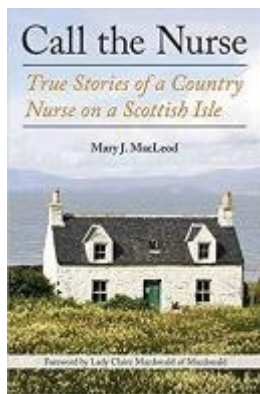
# Between the Bookends



By Paula Boswell

October! A great month for baseball lovers. We put a new book on this popular sport on the Book Cart this month for you to enjoy and are scouring our shelves for other stories about this national pastime. A few books on the subject have been checked out. If you have finished reading them, then please return these at your earliest convenience so that others can enjoy them, too. Thanks!

Here is the entire selection of new books for your reading pleasure:

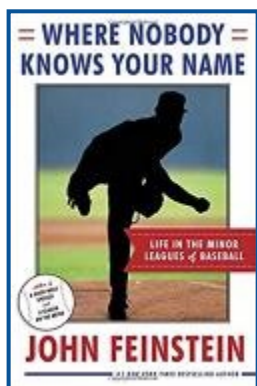


**MacLeod, Mary J. , *Call the Nurse*.**

Did you enjoy the Irish Country Doctor books or the James Herriot classics? Then you will find great pleasure in reading this author's memoirs.

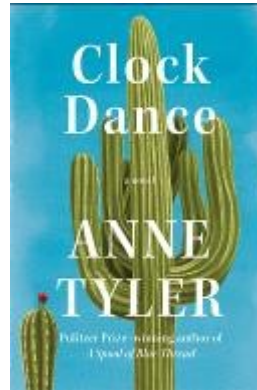
Looking for a simpler life, Mary MacLeod and her husband George move to a scarcely populated island in the Scottish Hebrides in the 1970s. Mary takes on the job as district nurse and makes her daily rounds to those who

need her help. She gets to know most of the inhabitants and forms a strong bond. Luxuries are nonexistent; a radio and telephone are the only ways of communication. Some of her stories are funny and thought-provoking, others tragic. Well worth your time!



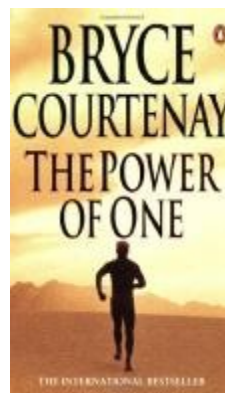
**Feinstein, John. *Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life in the Minor Leagues of Baseball*.** Derek Jeter, Tony La Russa, Dusty Baker—these and many other outstanding baseball players got their start in Triple-A teams. Most minor leaguers are not that lucky. Throughout the book you sense the desire, despair, hope and anger of minor league players and managers, all

trying to make the jump to the spotlight and the big payday. That and many other fascinating baseball facts are found in this book. Truly a baseball lover's delight!



**Tyler, Anne, *Clock Dance*.** As in most of her other books, the author writes about ordinary people. The story follows Willa Drake from age 11 to 61. As a pre-teen she lives in Pennsylvania with her dysfunctional family. Her mother “runs away from home” quite regularly, while Willa, her dad and her sister try to live a normal life. Years later, she goes to college and gets married, more out of

defiance to her parents than love. They have two sons with whom she does not have a close relationship. When her husband gets killed in an accident, Willa feels life is passing her by. Out of nowhere, she gets a confusing call from an oddball neighbor of her son's ex-girlfriend, Denise, asking for help raising her daughter. Suddenly Willa, desperate and lonely, feels she can be of use. If you are an Anne Tyler fan you will like this book.



**Courtenay, Bryce, *The Power of One*.**

The story tells of Peekay, a young English boy, born and raised in South Africa. The country is divided by racism and hatred. Peekay endures humiliation and bullying in an African school through World War II. Fortunately, he finds mentors who teach him valuable lessons for survival in boarding school and later in life. Among his mentors is a black, retired boxer who teaches him the finer

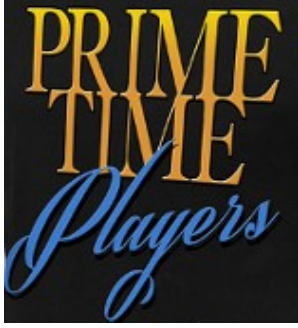
points of the sport. Peekay becomes a devoted pupil and sets his heart on becoming the welterweight champion of the world. He finally learns the power to transform lives, especially his own. This a grand, uplifting book for all underdogs!

*Books are a uniquely portable magic.*

—Stephen King







Heading into Fall—my favorite season of the year! Oh wait, I really like Spring and Easter too... We have some really fun stuff going on in October!

**Tuesday 10/2—Prime Time Potluck and Presentation, 12:00, Wesley Center**

Please join us for a potluck luncheon and presentation by the group Home-Match. With housing costs skyrocketing in the Bay Area, and lots of us now empty nesters with big houses and lots of extra bedrooms, come learn how Home-Match can work with all of us for more efficient, effective and fun housing options. Please bring a dish to share, or stop at the deli or bakery. We always have plenty of food: it's your company we want to share!

**Tuesday 10/16—Prime Time Lunch with Friends, 12:00, Wesley Center**

Chef John Sanders returns to make his *delicious* beef stew, homemade rolls and luscious salad and something really good for dessert—as always! Over 55? Join us for great food, fellowship and fun! Best \$5 meal in the valley!

**Wednesday 10/31—Cross-generational Halloween Parade and Luncheon, 11:30, Wesley Center**

My favorite event of the year! The Prime Time group hosts the preschoolers and their parents for a Halloween parade in the courtyard and a yummy homemade lunch. From newborns to ninety-year-olds: come mingle with all generations from the church! \$5 good will donation. Costumes optional! Reading corner and lots of fun!

## Update on Arundo Eradication at SRVUMC

Arundo is a large, invasive reed that can grow up to 20 feet tall. It grows along creek banks in Contra Costa County and is particularly prevalent on our Church property. It is a fire hazard, it displaces native plants, destroys fish and wildlife habitat, and can create flooding problems.

Take advantage of the temporary missing section of fence at the back of our Church property to see the invader up close. Some members of our church have been actively engaged in developing safe procedures to remove the unwanted plant. We have been working with a Danville conservation group called *Friends of the Creek* who in turn are part of the Walnut Creek Watershed Council, which includes nine local cities and town and works closely with other County agencies to protect our environment.

The season for creek access runs from June 15 through October 15. During some Saturdays in the month of September, you might notice many young people working on the removal operation. Local Scout Troops and the SRV High School Environmental Club have volunteered to help haul the cut reeds from the stream banks. Our Church is grateful for the community spirit of these young people. They are the future stewards of our creeks. We are hoping that by taking the lead in this endeavor, our Church will inspire other property owners to remove the invader from their properties.

If you are interested in helping with this environmental stewardship project, contact Lyn Arscott at [lynarscott@comcast.net](mailto:lynarscott@comcast.net).



*Top: Volunteers cutting and hauling Arundo reeds from the creek behind the church. Bottom: Close-up of the Arundo donax reed (Attribution: Bouba at French Wikipedia.org).*



# Help Trunk or Treat!

**Saturday, October 27, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

## ARC Parking Lot

Calling groups and families in the church community! Decorate a car “trunk” in a theme of your choice and hand out some candy to our visitors and families. The theme decorations can be as simple or as elaborate as elaborate as your team would like. Help us connect with local families, especially those who came to VBS or preschool!

- Some fun themes for decorating could be island décor, a favorite sports team, a hobby, pirates, pumpkins or fall, a Bible story, favorite children’s book...so many fun ways to go!
- We will have snacks and a jump house too!

Contact **Laura Roy** at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org) if you want to be a part of the fun!



**Kids Give Back**

**Community Service Club**



## Grades 1 to 5

A new SRVUMC club is being formed to help build empathy and compassion in our children by giving back to those in need. The club will hold several service events where the children (grades 1 through 5) will need to attend **with one parent**. The events will be held on weekend days listed below.

Cost to join is **\$75 per family**, with some partial scholarships available for anyone needing extra help. The Club will be limited to 15 children, and events will be run as long as we have at least six members that can attend.

Families will sign up for each event on Sign Up Genius, so

we will know how many to expect. *We ask for a one-week cancellation notice if you sign up and can no longer make it to facilitate purchase of supplies.*

Dates and Events:

**November 10, 11 a.m., Fairfield Food Bank**

Fairfield Food Bank: 2339 Courage Drive, Suite F Fairfield, CA United States 94533. Provide your own transportation.

**Dec 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wesley Hall**

Trinity Winter Homeless Gift Boxes (including socks, underwear, toiletries, hat/gloves and scarf)

**April 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wesley Hall**

Blue Star Care Packages for our troops. Kids will assemble gift boxes for our troops overseas.

Email **Laura Roy** to sign-up for the Kids Give Back Club [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org).

## Parent Connection Dinner and Monthly Discussion

Second Sunday of the Month

**Starting October 14, 4 to 6 p.m.**

Fireside Hall

Childcare in Tot Spot

Email **Laura Roy** to sign-up for childcare at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org).

## MOM, POP & Tots

**In Tot Spot**

Third Tuesday of the Month, **Starts October 16**

**10 to 11:30 a.m.**

- *Coffee, Tea, Snacks*
- *Kids time to play*
- *Monthly discussion topics*





## Calendar

**October 1**—Family BBQ at Hap Magee

**October 21**—First monthly Youth volunteer trip to St. Vincent De Paul.

**October 27**—Trunk or Treat (*see Page 12*)

**December 2**—Hanging of the Greens, Advent Festival

**December 24**—Christmas Eve Pageant and Service.



## Children's Ministry Sunday Topics:

### WEEK 1

*Exodus 25:8-9; 28:1, 3; 31:1-11; 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43*

Building the Tabernacle

**Bottom Line:** God want us to work together.

### WEEK 2

*Exodus 17:8-13*

Joshua Wins the Battle Over Amalekites

**Bottom Line:** Work together to help someone succeed.

### WEEK 3

*Luke 5:17-26*

Jesus Heals the Paralytic / Four Friends

**Bottom Line:** Work together to help someone in need.

### WEEK 4

*1 Corinthians 12:12-27*

One Body but Many Parts

**Bottom Line:** Work together to point others to Jesus.

**Memory Verse:**

"Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do." *Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIrV*

***Did you miss it on Page 12? Don't forget to check out the new program, Kids Give Back! You can still sign up!***

## 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](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org)

(925)837-5243 ext 106

### Jamere Crawford

Youth Ministries (Grades 6-12)

[jcrawford@srvumc.org](mailto:jcrawford@srvumc.org)

(925)837-5243 ext.109

## Music

### Children's Choir

#### Beth McClelland

Sundays, 10 to 10:30 a.m., TK through grade 5, meets upstairs in Judson. The choir will sing the second Sunday of the month. Also perform for the Christmas concert, Christmas Eve, Palm Sunday, and the May Music Concert. Questions? Please contact **Beth McClelland** at [iteachk@pacbell.net](mailto:iteachk@pacbell.net).

### 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 Sun from 4 to 5 p.m.

## 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.

# Among Ourselves

## Health Concerns...

Cameron Jacobi  
Johnny Johnston

## Continued Prayers For...

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

## Name Tags

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

# October Celebrations

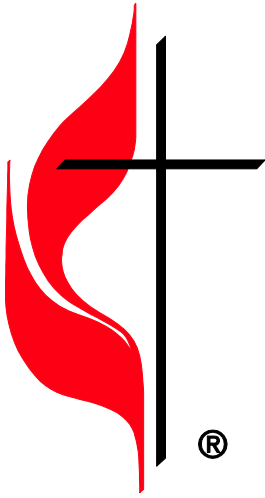
## Birthdays



1 Jeff Doyle	7 Morgan Dowling	Danni Sherman	
Theresa Omar	Lydia Fenoglio	Suzan Roland	
2 Bruce Fitch	Lisa Laird	Melissa Ward	
Ariyana Vojdani	Barbara Schneider	Natalie Sheppard	24 Lauren Nakaso
Laurel Portman	8 William Barton	Larry Watson	Jonathan Vasquez
Sam Hawk	Kevin Hoff	15 John Busher	Karen Watson
Kim Maier	Doug Domergue	16 Liz Bayat	25 Emily Doran
3 Jim Johnson	Dennis Greene	17 Bill Lettis	Sandy Pihowich
Lyla Balyuk	Thomas Valdriz	Ken Randall	Bob Schleicher
Heather Morgan	9 Anita Ho	18 Joe Anderson	26 Rochelle Hoff
4 Lance Schlichter	Teresa Marohn	Ida Dandridge	27 Alexis Lee
5 Betty Dorsey	Darrellyn Orr	Mikala Choy	Brett Domergue
Christina Ehlers	Ann Radick	Priscilla Wolfram	28 Bill Foulds
Colby Milligan	10 Paula Lyons	19 Walt Torgersen	29 Jen Birkby
Phillip Luecht	Jim Rossini	20 Lauren Nakaso	Erik Benjamson
Grace Hickman	Grace Mannell	21 Sharleen Keen	Aubrie Flores
6 Wendy Cooper	Pam Uitti	Greg Sallee	Allie Metcalf
Gavin Isbell	Bob Sada	23 Bruce Benzler	Bob Millinich
Jack Schramm	11 Robbie Barton	Nancy Campbell	Dale Stevenson
Heather Jackson	Susan Dowling	Brandon Christensen	31 Ed Scott
Kyle Glover	12 Layne Alfrey	Kacie Rousseau	
Dylan DeWalt	Kellen Armanini	Jana Vojdani	
Pat Elam	Madeline Sepull	Ann Knies	
Millie Sherman	14 Christine Miller	Kelly Milligan	

## Wedding Anniversaries

2 Beth & Brett McKnight	15 Jen & Scott Birkby	Rhonda & Brad Poole	24 Kathleen & Nader Sa-ghafi
6 Susan & Rick Doran	Karen & Ken Randall	Sherrie & Don Weis	
9 Liz & Skip George	16 Susan & Craig Schultz	20 Lynn & Joe Sanguedolce	29 Cherrie & Joe Anderson
Jackie & Rudy Ceragioli	17 Margo & Ron Cefalo	21 Beth McClelland & Jo-seph Voelker	
<b>(59th)</b>	Tami & John Mitchell	22 HollyAnn Melton & Ted Nguyen	
12 Cadi & Brian Stephenson	Nancy & Epi Vazquez	23 Joan & Lyn Arscott	
13 Devon & Buck Drake	18 Barbara & Bill Schneider	<b>(53rd)</b>	
14 Marti & Sketch Sketchley	<b>(66th)</b>		
<b>(51st)</b>	19 Marla & Stanley Nakaso		



# OCTOBER 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

October 2018

Time-valued material — Deliver promptly

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