



# Valley Messenger

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

**APRIL 2020**

## *Pastor's Pulse ~*

## **“Social Distancing”**

By the time you receive this we will have been under the “shelter in place” order for two weeks. Unless “extended, rescinded, superseded or amended” it will be in effect through 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7. I wish I knew what to say that will be relevant to you when you read this. Our worlds will have changed by then. Our futures, too.

I originally intended to write you about my appointment change to Tice Valley UMC at the end of June. That doesn't seem as important now. It did when the news first came out; it was abrupt and unexpected, and many of you were upset. Understandable given the many disruptions of the last couple years. Now you have COVID-19 and who knows how many weeks of “social distancing” to contend with. Appointment change is small potatoes.

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***Next Issue: May 2020***

*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 April 15, 2020.*

“Social distancing” is one of those euphemisms that obscures the cost of the measures it refers to. It's a sugar-coating to help the medicine go down. In a crisis the better angels of our nature draw us together. In this one we're being held apart.

The news of my new appointment to Tice Valley UMC is a change for all of us as well. Understanding the following things might be helpful. I'm an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, I will go—and want to go—where my pastoral gifts best serve the whole people of God. After talking with our DS, Shinya Goto, and Tice Valley's, Schuyler Rhodes, I remembered how long I've known a majority of the cabinet members (Debra Brady among them) and how well they know me. Of course they pored over this change prayerfully and thoroughly. Of course they knew that moving a pastor after only two years is less than ideal. Yet, given who I am and what I do as a minister, the match was too obvious to ignore. Even so, the well-being of SRVUMC is a high-priority item to the Cabinet; if they didn't have a well-suited replacement in mind, they would never have pulled the trigger. (By the time you read this, you'll know who the new associate is. I already know. Y'all are in business!)

If observing the shelter in place order is a foretaste of what it will be like for us to be apart, I can't say I'm enjoying it. Still, I'm keeping my distance not for my sake but for everyone's. In

**SRVUMC****902 Danville Blvd  
Alamo, CA 94507****Office Hours:**

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

**Phone (925) 837-5243****Fax (925) 837-2763**[www.srvumc.org](http://www.srvumc.org)**Ministers**

EVERYONE

**Lead Pastor**

Kim Risedorph (ext. 107)

**Associate Pastor**

Dan Sturdivant (ext. 108)

**Director of Family Ministries**

Laura Roy (ext. 106)

**Youth Director**

Rebecca Bernstein (ext. 109)

**Office/HR Manager**

Susan Dowling (ext 104)

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Theresa Omar

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**Music Director**

Bruce Koliha

**Organist**

Nadia Blank-Koliha

**U.M. Preschool Director**

Paulette Ove (ext 113)

**AV Director**

Linda Green

**Messenger Editor**

Lisa Jancarik

[newsletter@srvumc.org](mailto:newsletter@srvumc.org)**Communication Manager**

Shana Carroll

**Director of Recreational Ministries**

Joey Fuca

(925) 837-2011

the same way, I make this move to Tice Valley not because I won't grieve the distance between us but because of the good the Spirit might do for the whole people of God. They discerned that who I am and what I do as a minister is precisely what Tice Valley and the Rossmoor community needs. At the same time, they would never have pulled the trigger without considering the well-being of SRVUMC.

Observing the shelter in place order is a foretaste of what it will be like to be separated from you come July. I can't say I'm enjoying it. Still, the reason to maintain social distance during this time is not because it will keep me from getting sick. The reason is to keep everyone else well (since I might be a carrier). Similarly, I make this move to Tice Valley, not because I won't miss you, but because of the good the Spirit will do through me for the whole people of God.

**Pastor Dan**

March 26, 2020

Steve Roath, SPRC Chair

San Ramon Valley UMC

902 Danville Blvd.

Alamo, CA 94507

Dear Sisters and Brothers of First United Methodist Church,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

My thoughts and prayers are with you. It is with great joy that I

inform you that, after much prayer and consultation, it is Bishop

Minerva G. Carcaño's intent to appoint the Reverend Manohar (Mantu) Joshi to serve as your Associate Pastor effective July 1, 2020.

Pastor Mantu is an innovative pastor who is an excellent preacher, teacher, and author. He has written a book on parenting children with special needs called "Resilient Parent". He has taught online courses for parents around the world on the subject. His previous appointments have included leading diverse congregations a wide range of settings including Rockridge UMC in Oakland, Wayside UMC in Vallejo, Davis UMC in Davis, and Pastor of Innovation at First United Methodist Church in Kalamazoo, MI. I've been impressed with the fruitfulness of his transformational ministry. Pastor Mantu is uniquely gifted to lead San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church along with Senior Pastor Kim Risedorph into further growth and vitality as you strive to reach people in your community and invite them into the grace-filled journey as Christ's disciples.

Pastor Mantu and Pastor Dan will work together with your lay leadership for a smooth and effective leadership transition. On behalf of Bishop Carcaño, I thank you for the great insights and prayers your Pastor and SPRC have offered throughout this process and I anticipate even greater things from your congregation as we journey onward.

Finally, I ask for your prayers during this important time of transition for Pastor Mantu and his spouse, Heidi, and their children, Janae (5th grade) and Anjali (1st grade). I trust that you will welcome them warmly. Please also pray for Pastor Dan and Maria as they prepare for their move. Please also pray for the vitality of the wonderful faith community that is San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church of Alamo.

Walking with you as we follow Jesus,

**Rev. Shinya Goto****El Camino Real District Superintendent****Pastor Mantu Joshi**

## April Communion Offering “Food for Thought”

On behalf of the volunteers for the Food For Thought program and the recipients at Trinity Center, we are blessed to have had both the financial and spiritual support of the SRVUMC community for the last seven years! Since this program was initially implemented through the inspiration and perseverance of **Horace Crawford** and **Ron Dunn**, we have provided nutritious and creative lunches on most Fridays each month to 45 to 50 of the homeless clientele of Trinity Center. It has been a blessing to me and to our volunteers to play an active, hands-on role in caring for this underserved community. Over the years, the many volunteers from SRVUMC who cook and serve the meals have found the experience similarly rewarding. The expressions of appreciation from them and the smiles we get say it all. We are grateful to the pastoral staff and committee chairs at SRVUMC who have provided the tangible support to purchase the groceries which make up our lunches. Once again, our April Communion Offering will directly support this ministry, and we are grateful for your contribution.

As noted, a month or so ago, we have now taken over responsibility from another church for providing lunch on the first Friday of each month. ***I would love to hear from any of our community who would like to contribute three to four hours per month on either a regular or "as needed" basis to make this additional week a reality.***

Many thanks to our volunteers who have given so generously of their time over the years, especially "team leaders" **Peggy Crawford, Anita Weir** and **Larry Pasquale**. Grace and peace be with you!

***Dick Lam***

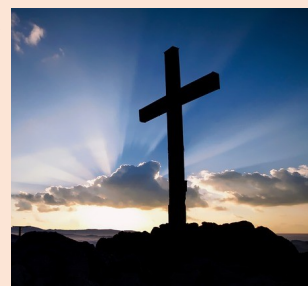
***We continue to support Trinity Center during this time. While we are not preparing or serving meals for a few weeks, we have sent a check to Trinity Center to cover the costs of purchasing prepared food. Thank you for your ongoing support of this vital ministry.***

## Our Church Campus is Closed.

Please help us keep the campus secure and environmentally safe. We are aware that some have been on campus and have disarmed the security alarm system without advance notification. When they left, they did not rearm it, compromising both safety and security for others. We need your help in keeping our campus secure. **Please contact Jeff Lang if there is any urgent need to be on campus at either (408) 497-8022 or by email at [jlang@ryantech.com](mailto:jlang@ryantech.com).** Thank you for your help in ensuring the campus can be as safe as possible for those needing to be there for essential services.

## Holy Week and Easter Services

We plan to hold Holy Week and Easter services and are waiting to hear if we can gather in the Sanctuary for them. ***We'll confirm plans on April 7.*** Thanks for your flexibility and understanding.



Holy Thursday	7 p.m.
Good Friday	7 p.m.
Easter Sunrise	6:30 a.m.
Easter Services	9 and 11 a.m.

## Sheltering in Place

Thank you for sheltering in place as a way to stop the spread of coronavirus. Equally important, the shelter in place directive will keep our hospitals and healthcare providers from being overwhelmed and then unable to care for those infected or ill.

We know it's not an easy assignment, and we know it is vital to the well-being of others. The things we can do that will truly help are: pray, stay at home, and only go on essential errands for food and medications. **We have a team of folks that can help with errands, and they'd love to make a safe delivery to your home. Call the church office at 837-5243 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to arrange.**

***Pastor Kim***



# Easter Offering

## Hope Solutions and GRIP



**GREATER RICHMOND  
INTERFAITH PROGRAM**

**Greater Richmond Interfaith Project (GRIP)** is an interfaith and multiracial organization dedicated to serving the region's homeless, hungry and disenfranchised. Begun in 1966, modern services range from the Souper Center for nutritious, hot meals daily and the GRIP Resource Center for showers and toiletries, mail and telephone, and emergency clothing for clients. The Family Housing Program provides emergency shelter for families with children with its 75 beds. Finally, its Families in Transition program partners with the West Contra Costa County Unified School District to assist with transport, school uniforms and school supplies for homeless, runaway, unaccompanied or foster youth. For more information on GRIP please visit their website at <http://www.gripcares.org>



In 1997, San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church joined with fourteen other faith community partners, forming Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH) to address homelessness in our community.

Since that time, we have partnered with CCIH to create Garden Park Apartments and many other effective solutions to ending homelessness for our most vulnerable neighbors. Our own Pastor Kim Risedorph has just joined the board, and many members of our congregation have been integral to growing the impact of this organization in our community. As part of its five-year strategic plan, CCIH now has a new name and identity: **Hope Solutions**.

Hope Solutions envisions a future in which everyone has a place to call home and the support of a strong community to live with dignity and reach their full potential. The organization's mission is to heal the effects of poverty and homelessness by providing permanent housing and vital support services to highly vulnerable families and individuals.

In just the first year, they have

- Increased the number of households housed and served from 127 to 418
- Added a new program model to house an additional 125 homeless families and launched a program for 40 homeless transition-age youth
- Grown revenue from \$4.4M to \$7.2M, comprised of a 78% increase in public funding, and a 20% increase in private funding
- Added eleven program staff positions to ensure quality support of clients
- Increased the Resident Empowerment Program (REP) leaders involvement in program oversight and governance
- Selected a new name that better conveys their mission and values and supports growth goals

The new name, Hope Solutions, reflects the essence of how the organization supports its residents and how it will grow its impact in the future. For six months, the rebranding team had rich conversations about the organization's values, identity and future goals. Hundreds of possible names were considered, and this name reflected the hope that we all hold for the organization's clients until they can hold it for themselves. Hope Solutions continually invites their clients to dare to hope while offering concrete solutions and support to heal and thrive.

### ***Postponed Until Further Notice***

#### **Wise Women's Retreat**

**San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville**

Scheduled retreat leader **United Methodist Pastor Donna Fado Ivery**, author of *Sleep, Pray Heal*. We look forward to finding another time to gather.

# Upcoming Mission Opportunities

## Help With Wildfire Recovery in Lake County, California

Lake County has had several major wildfires in the last few years, including the Valley Fire which destroyed 1300 homes in the Middletown area. We will assist with the continued rebuilding homes for families that are challenged to do so on their own. We will leave on **Sunday, May 3**, and return on **Friday, May 8**.

We will stay at the Hope City team housing in Middletown, facilities offering twin-size bunk beds and showers with meals provided by the Hope City Staff with our help. The cost of the trip is \$225. Registration is now available and due by **April 17**. For more information, questions or to register, contact **Steve Elliott** at [sae612@msn.com](mailto:sae612@msn.com) or **925-362-8697**.



**MedShare.** Please join us volunteering at MedShare in San Leandro to help sort medical supplies on **Saturday, May 9, from 1 to 4 p.m.** Your next opportunities volunteer will be August 1 and October 10. Up to 20 people can participate, so contact **HollyAnn Melton** at **925-479-9867 (Home)** or **408-582-3276 (Cell)** to sign up.

## Did You Know?

According to the [WHO mythbusters page](#) there is **no evidence** that any of the following prevents coronavirus infection:

- Eating garlic
- Rinsing your nose with saline
- Taking a hot bath
- Rinsing your body with bleach

***Check with your health professional before you try any of the claims you might see or hear about.*** Many of the things you might see are not only inaccurate but harmful.

***—Editor***

## Postponed!



Please note that our Rise Against Hunger event originally scheduled for April 25 has been postponed by the central organization for now. We will set a new date and keep you informed.

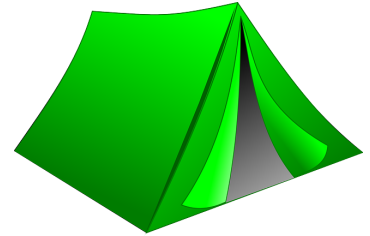
# Winter Nights Rescheduled:

## Starts April 27

Dear Meal Leaders and Church Leaders:

Well, things have changed. The Winter Nights leadership is working to adapt to current events and to assure that volunteers are not exposed to coronavirus. Here is the current status:

**Winter Nights is still coming to SRVUMC, but a week early on April 27.** We still will host for two weeks. Clients are expected to be present in the building 24/7 (Winter Nights staff will be present at all times).



At this point (things could change), the only thing our volunteers need to do is deliver food to a point outside Wesley Center. **We will not need to enter Wesley Center.** We may need to load/unload. Stay tuned on that.

The meal assignment now works as follows.

1. Choose a local restaurant (e.g. Kentucky Fried Chicken). Coordinate with me in advance so the clients don't get pizza every day.
2. Order food for 22 people...say six adults and sixteen children, (we are only feeding clients and Winter Night staff).
3. Pick up and pay for the food.
4. **Deliver the food to the rear entrance of the kitchen behind Wesley Center at 6 p.m.** Two or three people will be plenty to do this. I can help subsidize the cost if needed: if you wish financial help, I will need receipts. Plan on contributing at least the amount you would have spent on a home-prepared meal the way we used to do it.
5. The clients will take care of distribution and clean up. We will use paper plates and disposable utensils. We have the paper plates, **but please get plastic utensils if you can.**

Also, we will periodically deliver milk, juice, cereal, bread, sandwich makings, snacks, etc. for client prepared breakfasts and lunches to the rear entrance of the kitchen. A Winter Nights staff member will pick up the food and put it away in the kitchen. We have one volunteer who will do most of this.

Our schedules will change. I am not going to put out a schedule until we are closer to the event. We need many fewer people, so I assume we can work out new dates. Just subtract seven days from your current scheduled date for a starting point. The number of clients may go down.

Stay tuned for information. Please share this information with your teams.

Thank you for your continued concern and flexibility.

God bless you,

Bob



I'M LISTENING.



STEPHEN  
MINISTRY

**Christ-Centered Care for People  
Who Are Hurting**

*Dog not included, but listening always is.*

# Puerto Rico Mission 2020

## Faith in Action

Our third year assisting with the recovery from Hurricane Maria brought our mission team to a better healed Puerto Rico. We were pleased to see recovery progress, but the region has years still to go. Now chronicled as one of the worst hurricanes in history, the 2017 storm left the island devastated.

This year's mission saw a return to the south coast. Stationed at a former Methodist Retreat Center, we served clients in the nearby towns of Guayama, Arroyo and Maunabo.

We worked on six different homes this year, doing everything from roofing to painting to stucco to tiling. In addition to meaningful work that was much appreciated, our presence was also about bringing hope and showing we care. We enjoyed getting to know the people we served. All of the families were gracious, heartwarming people.

Among our clients were Amaryllis and her young baby. There was Tony, a spunky 80-year-old. Guadalupe has lived in her storm-ravaged house for 40 years. Sonja and her family of ten hosted our efforts. And lastly, we served Hector and Nydia. Hector is 100% disabled from his Vietnam War duty. All welcomed complete strangers coming into their homes.

We enjoyed teaming with the construction workers assigned to each home. We benefited greatly from their patient guidance and familiarity with the tasks to be done.

As with all mission trips, one of the blessings is the team comradery of our week. It was amazing how we bonded around a common purpose. We shared meals, bunk beds inches apart, dribbling showers and meaningful reflection time each evening.

Trips like this are always full of special moments. We attended worship at Iglesia Metodista Puerta Del Cielo. What a warm reception we received! We admired the dedication of the local Methodist staff supporting our work. Their commitment was remarkable.

Looking back on this trip, we feel blessed to have the time, talent and means to make a difference in the lives of the people of Puerto Rico. We are determined to keep coming back until the recovery is complete.

Sincerely,

*The 2020 California-Nevada Conference Puerto Rico Mission Team*



*As is our tradition, we presented each family with a homemade quilt as a remembrance of our friendship.*



*Our team of twelve came from six different churches in the California-Nevada Conference.*



# Summer Fun for Kids

## Vacation Bible School

**June 22 Through 26, 9 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Age 3 Through Grade 5**

*Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor*, invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Kids take on the role of brave Knights and begin their quest each session by opening the King's Book.

Register at [SRVUMC.org](http://SRVUMC.org).



## Sports and Faith Camp

**“Heart of a Champion”**

**June 1 Through 4, 9 a.m. to Noon**

**Grades 1 Through 5**

Kids will discover how to become champions—both in sports and in their faith. They'll enjoy action-packed sports training sessions mixed with rallies where you'll introduce kids to their true Champion—Jesus.

Register at [SRVUMC.org](http://SRVUMC.org).

## Summer Fun at United Methodist Camps!

Camp experiences have a dramatic impact on the development of children and youth, fostering faith, friendship, leadership skills and self-esteem.

- Toyon Camp in Aptos, July 6 through 12, for grades 3 to 9
- Toyon L.I.T in Aptos, July 6 through 16, ages 15 to 17

Contact Shari Sandoval (916-374-1528) or email [cam-pregistrar@calnevumc.org](mailto:cam-pregistrar@calnevumc.org).

## Plans Have Changed!

*Events and Meetings Postponed, Canceled or Reimagined for Now.  
(Incomplete List)*

**April 5—Palm Sunday Brunch and Egg Hunt:** We are **CANCELING** the Egg Hunt. Palm Sunday service will be streamed online. We hope to postpone and plan a celebration at a later date.

**April 20—The April book for the Afternoon Book Group** is now *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery. *The Girl With Seven Names* by Heonseo Lee will be discussed in May instead. Please make a note of it.

**April 25—Rise Against Hunger** has been postponed by the organization's main office. Watch for a new date when we are able to reschedule for this wonderful, family-friendly mission.

**April 27—Winter Nights** comes a week earlier than originally scheduled! See Page 5 of this newsletter for more complete information about changes to this event with health concerns in mind.

Preschool, the ARC, and the church office remain closed during the shelter in place. Please do not come to the campus, which is entirely closed during the governor's order. Patsy will answer the office phone number, (925) 837-5243 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. if you need to call. Office manager Susan Dowling checks the church's mail at the post office periodically, and our staff continues to work from home.

## Afternoon Book Group

**Monday, April 20, 1 p.m.**

**Rm. 202 Wesley Center**

*Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery (Sharon leading)





# Great Decisions of Our Age

## *Eight-week Series Concludes*

What are the great global policy decisions facing the US, and how should Christians respond? On Sunday, April 19, we began a series of eight weekly discussions on critical global issues using a guide prepared by the Foreign Affairs Association (FAA). Two Sunday talks remain. This program is part of an annual, nationwide program, whereby groups of concerned citizens throughout the US will discuss why the issues are important and why we should be concerned.

The series will be facilitated by **Lyn Arscott** and will be held after the first service in the Fireside Room or Wesley Center (TBD). A short DVD, prepared by the FAA, will be shown on each topic, followed initially by discussions in small groups and finally as a combined group. *The discussion series guidebooks will be on sale for \$35. Contact [lynarscott@comcast.net](mailto:lynarscott@comcast.net) if you need a copy.*



### *Remaining Topics:*

#### **May 3, 10:30 a.m. Red Sea Security**

The Red Sea has remained vital for global trade since the time of ancient Egypt. Once home to the spice trade, the Red Sea now sees millions of barrels of oil a day transported across its waters. With major nations like China, France, Italy, and the US building large ports and bases in the region, what does the future of the region look like? How important is Red Sea security for global security? Can the region be a place of global cooperation?

#### **May 10, 10:30 a.m. Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking**

Almost every nation has enacted laws criminalizing human trafficking, and international organizations, governments, and NGOs sponsor a large variety of projects to curb trafficking and slavery. Billions of dollars have been allocated to these efforts. What is the international community doing to combat slavery and trafficking? What are the experiences like for those being trafficked?

### **Did You Know?**

You can already make a donation to San Ramon Valley UMC [online](https://www.srvumc.org). Check out the Give tab at [www.srvumc.org](https://www.srvumc.org).

As a new alternative, you can now download the GivePlus Church app on your mobile device to make a donation that way.

**GIVE  
PLUS<sup>+</sup>**



**Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble.**



## *Planned Giving Brief*

# The Charitable Gift Annuity

### Secure Your Future With a Charitable Gift Annuity

If you are like many people, you have seen the value of your investments fluctuate with the markets. You might be wondering if there is a way to find true security for you and your loved ones. The good news is that with a charitable gift annuity's fixed payments, you or a loved one can find the peace of mind that you are looking for.

### What Is a Charitable Gift Annuity?

A charitable gift annuity is a way to make a gift to support the ministries that you care about. You make a gift of cash or property to the Foundation. In return, we will make payments for life to you, you and a loved one, or another person. Each payment will be fixed and the amount of each payment will depend on the age of the person who receives the payments. After all payments have been made, the remaining value of your gift goes to support the causes that matter to you. There are a number of benefits with a charitable gift annuity. Your payments are fixed as of the date of your gift. This means that your payments will never change, even if interest rates or the stock market changes. Depending upon your gift, you may receive the added benefit of mostly tax-free payments. You will also receive a charitable deduction in the year that you set up the gift annuity.

### Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity

If you would like to make a future gift to your church today, but do not need the payments until a later date, we can also create a deferred gift annuity arrangement to meet your needs. While you benefit from a charitable tax deduction at the time you make your gift to your church, we can begin making payments to you at a future date or even be flexible about when your payments begin.

### Secure Payments for Life

If you are looking for a way to secure your future, a charitable gift annuity may be the answer for you. Not only will your gift help further a ministry you care about, but you will receive the security of fixed payments for your lifetime backed by our promise to pay. Now is the right time to lock in your payout rate with a gift to fund a charitable gift annuity. To find out how high your payments could be and to learn more about charitable gift annuities, please give us a call.

*This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.*

### Editor's Note

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Email: [davidm@canvumf.org](mailto:davidm@canvumf.org)

Website: [www.canvumfgiving.org](http://www.canvumfgiving.org)

You can learn more about the 501(c)3 nonprofit organization by visiting their website.

### San Ramon Valley UMC Endowment Committee

For questions or more information, please contact

Mike Prenger at [mprenger@comcast.net](mailto:mprenger@comcast.net) or (925) 838-7928

Bob Dominici at [rjdomo@aol.com](mailto:rjdomo@aol.com)

# Sick of “Happy Birthday”?

## Wash Your Hands to a Hymn Instead!

Is everyone as sick of singing “Happy Birthday” as I am? A quick Google search surprised me: plenty of classic rock (“Landslide”), disco (“Stayin’ Alive”) and country (“Jolene”) tunes to wash your hands by, but where are the hymns?

As a little project, I went to [SundaySchoolSources.com](http://SundaySchoolSources.com) to find some familiar hymn lyrics, and that’s where the words printed here came from. You may find it’s worth timing yourself.

Some secular honorable mentions include “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” (thanks, **Nancy Benvenuto**) and “Whistle While You Wash” (thanks, **John Green**). —*Editor*

### This Is My Father’s World

*(About 26 seconds, so repeat. Thanks to Marilyn Scott for this suggestion!)*

This is my Father’s World, and to my listening ears,

All nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father’s World, I rest me in the thought,

Of rocks and trees, and skies and seas, His hands the wonders wrought.

### Jesus Loves Me

*(About 42 seconds)*

Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, He who died, Heaven's gates to open wide,  
He will wash away my sin, Let His little child come in.

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.

### He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands

*(About 35 seconds)*

He's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole wide world in his hands

He's got the whole wide world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands

He's got the little bitty baby in his hands, he's got the little bitty baby in his hands

He's got the little bitty baby in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands

*(Repeat refrain)*

### If You’re Happy and You Know It

*(About 40 seconds for these three verses)*

1) If you’re happy and you know it, clap your hands,  
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands,  
If you're happy and you know it, then your life will surely show it,  
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!

2) If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet...

3) If you're happy and you know it, shake your head...

### Seen in the church office:

**“Jesus and germs are everywhere!  
Wash your hands!”**







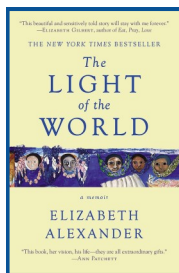
# Between the Bookends



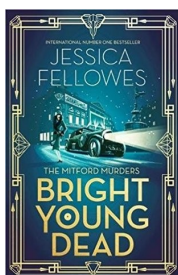
By the Library Committee

## Play Ball!

Baseball season is starting! Why not pick out a good book and get in the mood for some ball playing. Here are some titles: ***Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life in the Minor Leagues*** by John Feinstein; ***One Last Strike*** by Tony La Russa; and ***Calico Joe*** by John Grisham.

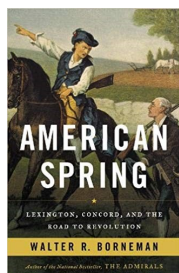


**Alexander, Elizabeth, *The Light of the World*.** She was born in Harlem, he in Eritrea. She becomes a poet and an educator, he an artist and a chef. They meet and marry in Connecticut and live a joyous life full of meaningful work and love for each other, their two sons, their extended family, and their community. At 50, he dies suddenly and unexpectedly, and she is bereft. This memoir is her response to this loss. It is a beautifully written celebration of a life full of kindness and grace, generosity and humor. Both the profound loss and the grateful joy for the life they shared are fully shared with us and the result is truly uplifting.



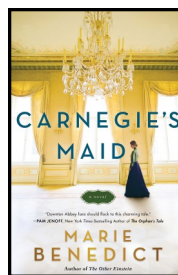
**Fellowes, Jessica, *Bright Young Dead: A Mitford Murders Mystery*.** (2nd in series) The setting is 1925 at the estate of Lord Redesdale, outside of London, celebrating daughter Pam Mitford's 18th birthday. The lively, flapper friends of Pam's older and more worldly sister, Nancy are also in attendance.

This celebration ends when a guest, Adrian Curtis, is found dead at the base of the bell tower. The police quickly blame the maid who discovered him because she has some stolen items from the estate in her bag. However, the Mitford sisters and their companion, Louisa, can't believe the maid is guilty. They agree to set out and find the real culprit. Thus begins the murder mystery.



**Borneman, Walter R., *American Spring: Lexington, Concord, and the Road to Revolution*.** This is a step by step account of the very beginning of the American Revolution, which covers the first six months of 1775. Tensions are mounting, missteps are made by British soldiers as well as the colonial rebels. Who fired the first shot at Lexington—red coats or rebels? Opinions vary, and both sides give their testi-

mony. This is a great book for those who enjoy reading in-depth descriptions of famous battles. In particular, it is fascinating to get **both** sides of the story. It is extremely well researched.



**Benedict, Marie, *Carnegie's Maid*.** During the time of the Irish famine, a family in Ireland decides to send their middle daughter to America to obtain work and, hopefully, be able to send money to them. As she leaves the overly crowded ship, she hears a man calling her name, Miss Clara Kelley.

Could anyone know her name, she wonders.

She answers the man who is paging her name and begins her journey to Pittsburgh. It is there she learns that the other Miss Kelley, who unfortunately died while on board ship, has the position of being lady's maid to Mrs. Margaret Carnegie, Andrew Carnegie's mother. Throughout her days of being with her mistress, she begins to learn of Andrew's aspirations. As she becomes more at ease conversing with Andrew, she reveals to him some of her thoughts for the industry he is building. He ponders her ideas, and thereby the story evolves. This novel suggests a possible reason for Carnegie's philanthropic ways.

We have replaced the following two books which somehow disappeared from our collection: ***Dreams from My Father*** by Barack Obama, a memoir by our former president, and ***Half a Heart*** by Karen McQuestion, an especially touching story of a young boy seeking love and safety.



"Dreams, books, are each a world; and books we know, are a substantial world, both pure and good."

—William Wordsworth



## Calendar

**April 5—Palm Sunday Brunch and Egg Hunt:** We are **CANCELING** the Egg Hunt. Palm Sunday service will be streamed online. We hope to postpone and plan a celebration at a later date.

**April 12—EASTER.** Stay tuned for updates, but for now, Sunday School TK through Grade 5 at 9 a.m. Child-care in Tot Spot at 9 and 11 a.m.

**June 1 through 4, 9 a.m. to Noon—Sports and Faith Camp: Heart of a Champion.** Grades 1 through 5. Register at [www.SRVUMC.org](http://www.SRVUMC.org). *Learn more Page 8 this newsletter.*

**June 22 through 26, 9 to 11:30 a.m.—Vacation Bible School Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor.** Age 3 through grade 5. Register at [www.SRVUMC.org](http://www.SRVUMC.org). *Learn more Page 8 this newsletter.*

*Third Grade Bibles: Class and presentation will be rescheduled.*

## Volunteers NEEDED!

- **Sports Camp (June 1 to 4, 9 a.m. to Noon)**
- **Vacation Bible School (June 22 to 27, 9 to 11:30 a.m.)**

Please email Laura Roy at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org) if you can help. We need crew leaders, storytellers, art leaders, recreation help and more.

## 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

### Rebecca Bernstein

Youth Ministries (Grades 6-12)

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

(925)837-5243 ext.109

## Sunday School TK-Grade 5

### What We Are Learning

#### WEEK ONE

MATTHEW 26:36-56, Jesus Prays in Gethsemane

SAY THIS: Put others first.

#### WEEK TWO

JOHN 18:12-20:23, Crucified and Risen

SAY THIS: Jesus put us first.

#### WEEK THREE

PHILIPPIANS 2:3-8, Servant Principle

SAY THIS: Put others first because Jesus put you first.

#### WEEK FOUR

LUKE 24:13-35, On the Road to Emmaus

SAY THIS: There's always more to discover about God's plan.

**REMEMBER THIS:** "Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves." —**PHILIPPIANS 2:3, NIrV**

**HUMILITY:** Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve.

## 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 Tot Spot, either service.*

## Weekly Programming

**Middle School Youth Group** (Grades 6 to 8) Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m.

**High School Youth Group** (Grades 9 to 12) Sundays from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

## Music

**Children's Choir**—Sundays, 10 to 10:30 a.m., TK through grade 5, meets upstairs in Judson. The choir will sing once a month. In addition, they perform for the Christmas concert, Christmas Eve, Palm Sunday, and the May Music Concert. Contact Beth McClelland with questions.

**Youth Choir**—Grades 6 to 12, Sundays 3 to 4 p.m. in Judson, 2nd floor.

**Bros and Belles Choir**—Grades 6 to 12, Practice Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m. Winnie Stribling directs.

## Kids Give Back!

We will be collecting used crayons for a service project with The Crayon Initiative in Danville. Please save your used crayons to bring during worship in May.



# Among Ourselves

## Health Concerns...

Nancy Alexander	Marilyn McCurdy
Nancy Benvenuto	Susie McKnight
Shana Carroll	Marsha Perkins
Leslie Gross	David Scott
JoAnn Hirsch	

## Continued Prayers For...

All those who live with long-term illness, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families, Barbara Brick, Bob De Chene, Doug Domergue, Connie Erickson,	Louise Hanover, Felicia Hillard, Joan Lee, Lea Patteson, Lillian Scherer; Ann Schroeder, Shirley Slater, Joan Webb, Jeannine Woolery
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## Our Christian Sympathy To...

Shannon Dever, on the recent passing of her aunt, **Warrie Alday**.

The family of **Johnny Johnston**. Let us recall with fondness our recent opportunity to celebrate his 100th birthday.

The family of **Cary Johnson**. Her memorial service has been canceled, but we can comfort her family remotely.

Sherry Weiss, following the death of her daughter, **Heather**.

## Name Tags

Please contact **Patsy Kyles** in the church office if you need a new name tag (\$8/ea.)

## No Hardcopy Newsletter This Month...

Because the church campus is closed to everyone, the intrepid volunteers who normally meet to print, fold and mail paper copies of the newsletter are not able to carry out their usual tasks. ***This month's newsletter is therefore electronic only.***

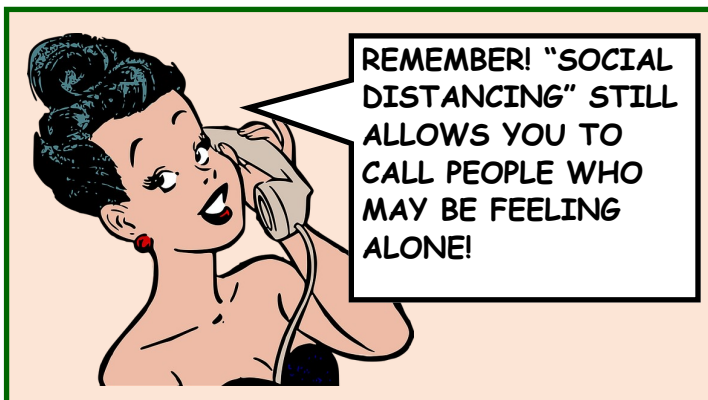
If someone wants to go online for the newsletter but is not familiar with how to do it, then they can call the church office **(925) 837-5243** between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., and they can even leave a message. Patsy or Susan will help them by phone during the day.

***Please consider downloading and printing out a copy to mail to our assisted-living and nursing facility residents who are not permitted visitors as a precaution against coronavirus.***



## Prayers For Our World...

We pray for our communities, nation and world as we respond to coronavirus. Prayers of thanks for our healthcare workers who are doing so much to keep us safe and healthy; and prayers for their well-being.





# April Celebrations

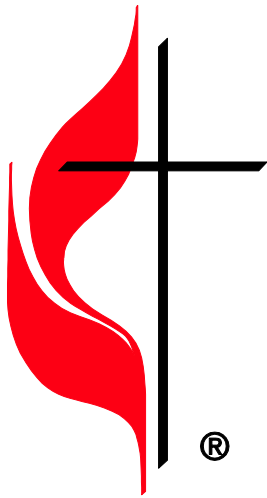
## Birthdays



1 Steve Brown	Trudy Pasquale	Robb Whiting	28 Nancy Reynolds
Julien Hansen	9 Randy Helms	19 Jennifer Andres	Dan Whiting
Jim Hardy	10 Dave McWilliams	Max Niedererauer	29 Jeff Koepp
2 Annette Warwick	11 Jim Ball	Nancy Vazquez	Shirley Stephenson
Dave Webb	Jeff Leontini	20 Bill Dastic	Vera Robinson
4 Linda Green	Kristin Prinolotta	Eric Johnson	30 Brent Willman
Joanne Van Bezey	Rhonda Sherrill	21 John Evans	
5 Barbara Brick	12 Alice Anthony	Bonnie Roberts	
Jayne Schnittker	Charlotte Garner <b>(95)</b>	Lillian Scherer <b>(98)</b>	
6 Lonnie Bristow <b>(90)</b>	Dave Voelker	22 Randy Christensen	
Sam Colman	13 Ed Davidson	Jill Shibuya	
Spencer Drake	Doug Hinzle	23 Boyd Hasik	
Taylor Munk	Bee Gee Millinich	24 Larry Henderson	
Lee Russ	Rosanne Ogles	Debbie Koos	
Sarah Stribling	14 Christy Campbell	Kendra Peters	
7 Molly Ehlers	Cliff Campbell	Rosemarie Place <b>(90)</b>	
Martha Kitajima	Madeline DeWalt	Annette Warwick	
Jan Knadle	Bruce Koliha	25 Jessica Kuelz	
Paulette Ove	15 Alexis Bybel	Donna Lindquist	
Johnathan Robinson	Ruth Riggins	26 Karen Brown	
8 Nancy Benvenuto	17 Randy Durrenberger	Steve Garnick	
Jeryn Blair Smario	18 Shelley Lettis	27 Lynne Henderson	

## Wedding Anniversaries

3 Ginger & Warren McGuffin	Jayne & John Schnittker <b>(64)</b>	20 Laurie & Terry Stocking
7 Jean & Chuck Desmond	11 Marilyn & George Clarke	24 Lael & Gerard Takiguchi
Kathy & Adam Kennedy	Winnie & Brad Stribling	25 Joanne & Randy Durrenberger
8 Linda & John Green	12 Debbie & Greg Koos	Kirsten & Scott Ericson
Teri & Steve Hawk	Deborah & Johnathan Robinson	26 Melanie & Boyd Hasik <b>(51)</b>
Sara & Jim Rossini		



# APRIL 2020

## Worship Schedule

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

Living Water Worship, 10:30 a.m., in the Sanctuary

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

April 2020

Time-valued material — Deliver promptly

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