



# Valley Messenger

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

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

## *Pastor's Pulse ~*

## **Liminal Seasons**

It was an ordinary Church Council meeting here at San Ramon Valley UMC. And then someone asked two questions: "Why does church matter? Why does this church matter?"

Great questions! Our answers to these questions will shape our future. What comes to mind for you? I'd like to hear why this church matters to you. (Let me know: [krisedorph@srvumc.org](mailto:krisedorph@srvumc.org))



These questions are at the center of a year-long program that Pastor Mantu and I, along with several church leaders are participating in. San Ramon Valley UMC has been chosen to participate in the Healthy Church Initiative. Our Conference is confident that our church, along with several others, will do more than survive the current pandemic. We will thrive. And the Conference is supporting us with workshops and leadership coaches for the year ahead. We will update you regularly, and ask for your input and participation.

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***Next Issue: October 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 September 15, 2020.*

Our assignments, which you will help us complete, include to create a clear pathway to following the Way of Jesus; and to develop a bold post-pandemic vision for reaching new people. To do that, we will examine our own church environment and ask: what among our practices are healthy, what are traditions, what are accidents, and what are toxic? How can we cultivate community in a pandemic? How can we maximize online generosity and giving?

The global pandemic of COVID-19 coupled with our nation's crisis as it comes face-to-face with racism expressed in structural racism has changed the landscape of our future work and ministry in profound ways. We are in a liminal time. Liminal and liminality are not only fun words to say—they describe our situation. Both words are derived from the Latin *limen*, meaning threshold. This is a time when we are no longer doing business as usual. We are on a threshold between the familiar and the completely unknown.

No doubt about it, liminal periods are disorienting. New identities are explored, and new possibilities are considered. That's the work ahead of us, and God is with us on this journey.

Let's keep our eyes on God's Presence with us. The natural human response is to resist liminality, to yearn to go back to the familiar, even if the familiar no longer exists. Exhibit A: Our ancestors in the faith, the Israelites, were not on their wilderness journey long before they began longing for the life in

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Egypt they had left behind. The Israelites endured a long liminal era during which they struggled to leave behind their identity as slaves. They began to know themselves as God's people, and it took time. A new national identity emerged.

Throughout the journey in the wilderness, the Israelites experienced palpable, breathtaking, divine encounters. God showed up visibly and powerfully in the transition. There was nothing subtle about God's leadership in this season. They had what they needed at the moment they needed it.

And that will be our story as well. We are embarking on an adventure with God. I'm grateful to be on this journey with you!

(Many of these ideas on liminality come from *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You Are Going: Leading in a Liminal Season* by Susan Beaumont.)



## Pastor Kim

### Takeaways from August 18 Church Council Meeting

Pastor Kim invited attendees to consider our "liminal season." (More fully explored in the above article.)

The August meeting's idea discussion period focused on three topics.

1. **Sarah Stribling** and **Pastor Mantu** in their **Healthy Church Initiative** efforts. They recently attended a workshop called a "A Clear Path to Discipleship." There, they addressed the goal of coaching each of us into a call to discipleship rather than membership.

2. An update on the **Re-Opening Task Force** for progress on ARC activities and development of courtyard worship services. Watch for more information about in-person worship service opportunities in Friday Memo and emails. *The safest way to worship remains to live stream via Facebook at 9 a.m. or download from YouTube at a later time.*

3. **Lucinda Huffaker** updated the Council on **SRVUMC Speaks Out and Dialogue for Change**. Lucinda reports that the Dialogue for Change series has been attended by around sixty individuals in each of its sessions. Owing to the enormous interest, Dialogue has been extended. *Learn more about SRVUMC Speaks Out or Dialogue for Change on Page 5 of this newsletter.*

Other News:

**SPRC welcomes Kareem White onto the staff in the role of church accountant.** Larry Beiber graciously agreed to remain through the end of August for Kareem's on-boarding. The Church Council extends its heartfelt thanks to Larry for his generosity.

### Policy on Using Information in SRVUMC Church Directory

Our Church Directory is for communication among church members, and it is not to be used to promote business interests. If you receive an unsolicited email that promoted a business, please know that the easiest way to stop this practice is to click on "unsubscribe" which is at the bottom of the email. A computer will process that request, and you will no longer receive unwanted emails.







# Fall Kickoff!

## Small Groups, Familiar Favorites

“The **Christ Care Visitors** group has been together for many years. Our purpose is to stay in touch, via visits and phone calls, with members of our congregation who are no longer able to attend worship or other church activities. We distribute the Sunday morning floral bouquets and Easter and Christmas flowers. We meet twice monthly via Zoom starting in September.”

— Suzanne Stephens

“The **Big Boys** men's group is all about camaraderie and an opportunity to share within a group of trusted friends. We are open to each others personal experiences, discuss the week's sermon and read a book together of common interest. The group is involved in community outreach and occasionally engage in sports outings. Big Boys is open to new members of any age or interest level. We meet weekly on **Tuesday evenings.**” — *William S. VanBezey*

*VanBezey*



*Stephen Ministry table, 2019 Fall Kickoff.*

*Right: Sod-Buster Ken Studer trims the courtyard with his mask in place this summer.*

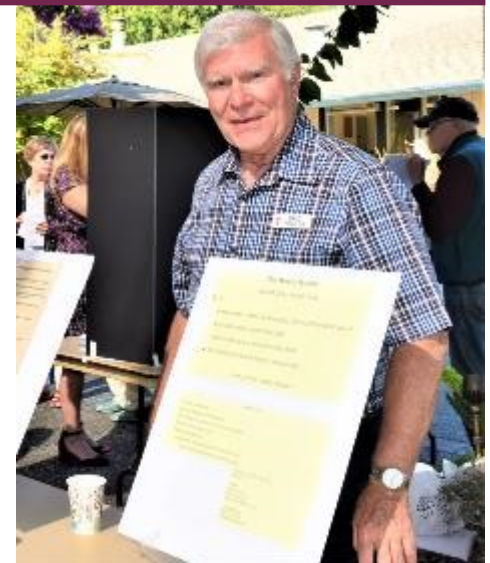


**Wesley Writers** is a small group at SRVUMC, now running over twelve years! We provide community, spirituality, encouragement and support for participants wishing to express themselves in writing. People's writing interests include short stories, personal vignettes, autobiographies, faith stories, poetry, novels, plays, and yes...even baseball, haiku and limericks! We greatly enjoy sharing these around...and for the price it's the “best show in town.” We meet from 3 to 5 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month, and it is co-facilitated by Brad Stribling and Terry Sherman. See you there?



*“Gospel of Uke”, Fall Kickoff, 2019.*

**LIFT (Learning, Living, Loving in Faith Together)** will be starting a new study on **September 9 and September 12.** The book will be ***Matchless*** by **Angie Smith.** Please consider joining this Intergenerational Women's Bible Study either **Thursdays from 9:45 to 11:15 a.m.** or **Sundays from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.** Contact **Debbie Kelly** at [gsanddeb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gsanddeb@sbcglobal.net) or **Sandy Gsand** at [sangsan@aol.com](mailto:sangsan@aol.com).



*Brad Stribling hosting the Wesley Writer's table during the Fall Kickoff for 2019.*



# ***Fall Kickoff! Nurturing Our Faith*** **Adult Education: What's Happening?**

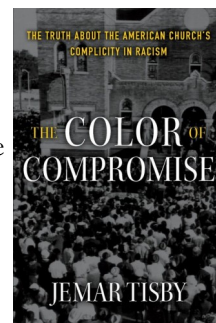
**Bill Rust, Faith Development Committee Chair**

Join us in the learning, sharing, good conversation, and being “opened” in three popular Sunday morning, faith-growing adult classes. Their overriding goal is feeding your faith so you will act on it.

1. **“Taking the Sermon into the World”** meets each Sunday by Zoom at 10 a.m. for inquiring conversation on the morning worship message on how each of us will live out the message in the community. Participants say, “I always look forward to coming to this group.” and “Our discussions give me inspiration for the week.” **Laura Sanchez** will facilitate.

**Contact her at [laura3627@zoho.com](mailto:laura3627@zoho.com). See Page 6 for more info.**

2. **“The History of Christianity from the Reformation to the Modern Megachurch”** meets each Sunday by Zoom at 10 a.m., September 6 through November 22. Professor Molly Worthen’s (UNC, Chapel Hill) engaging and knowledgeable video lectures will inform the class discussions. Themes from **Jemar Tisby’s** *The Color of Compromise* will add flavor to the history of the sad, often inexcusable role of the Christian church in racism in America. This study series will trace from the dawn of Protestantism to the Puritans, the dawn of the Enlightenment, the First Great Awakening, the Social Gospel, Fundamentalism, the Death of God movement, the Gospel and Global Civil Rights and, finally, the challenges Christianity faces in the 21st century. **Dave Coombs** will facilitate. **Contact him at [dfcassoc@comcast.net](mailto:dfcassoc@comcast.net). See Page 6 for more info.**



3. **“Dialogue for Change”** meets by Zoom each Sunday, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., through August and into the fall (no meeting on September 6, Labor Day Weekend). The “Dialogue for Change” discussion series gives participants a safe place to explore racial issues and our own feelings, and to show our own personal compassionate engagement against racial insensitivity and injustice through self-reflection and education. **Pastor Mantu** will be hosting many of the discussions. A Ted Talk video sets the theme of the day, followed by a facilitated discussion. Action takeaways to end racism:

- **Learn**—use available print and media resources.
- **Notice**—who is included or excluded in your daily activities; how are people shown or treated?
- **Pray**—this is the spiritual work of overcoming racism. Support activities defusing racial injustice.
- **Show up**—stay engaged, even when you want to shrink away. Defuse racially insensitive speech or action; stand with a person suffering abuse; don’t keep silent. Advocate for a better, more diverse, more equitable way.

**“Our [Speaking Out study] group shares wonderful videos and readings, good conversation, and supports each other in our steps in a long-term challenge.” — **Lucinda Huffaker****

**Contact Lucinda Huffaker at [lucinda.huffaker@gmail.com](mailto:lucinda.huffaker@gmail.com). All are welcome. See Page 5 for more info.**



# Fall Kickoff!

## Autumn Is a Season of Change

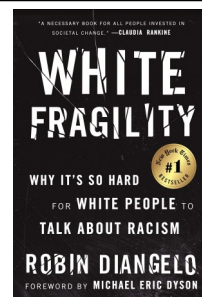
### Dialogue for Change Continues This Fall

This Sunday morning adult education series launched last July, and it has been so positively received that it will continue this fall in the same format. We watch short videos and have facilitated discussions about them in various formats (small groups, large group, chat boxes) to help us learn and understand more about the racial issues confronting us. The goal is compassionate engagement against racial insensitivity and injustice through continued self-reflection and education. Toward that goal, we have created a resource for making small and big changes in our thinking and behavior.

Things we learned about this summer included the phenomenon of white Americans calling the police on Black Americans who have committed the crimes of eating, walking or generally "living while Black," and the "dental hygiene model of antiracism"—you keep working on it daily, talking about it, and facing it because prejudice is all around us in media and social stimuli, and it builds up in us like plaque on our teeth! We learned about the power of our unconscious bias to influence our decisions, and counterintuitively, at times when it's important to us to be fair. But by far the most significant learning was what we received from the personal stories shared on August 2 by members of our own church family.

We hope you will plan to join us this fall for more exciting and challenging sessions of Dialogue for Change. Topics will explore mass incarceration, white privilege, implicit bias, the book *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, and more. To participate, please contact Patsy Kyles in the church office at [pkyles@srvumc.org](mailto:pkyles@srvumc.org) or by phone at 925-428-9873 for the Zoom and video links. Dialogue for Change is a program of the Speaking Out Committee of SRVUMC.

The discussions during Sunday morning Dialogues have sparked interest in many topics that stretch far beyond what we can tackle in one class! Please consider gathering a small group of people that might share your interest in learning and discussing more about a topic—the Confederacy, race and economic policy, racism and the church, voting rights, faith and social justice, etc. We'll help you make that happen! **Contact Pastor Mantu or Lucinda Huffaker.**



### Speaking Out Study Group Tuesdays 1 to 2:15 p.m., Zoom

The Speaking Out Study Group is a program of the Speaking Out Committee that focuses on education and growth in racial awareness and authentic Christian discipleship. Group members come together to learn, reflect, hold one another accountable, and encourage action that gives life to our intentions to be allies to persons of color. We study white privilege, systemic racism, racial equity, and other topics related to racial injustice and white normativity. We eagerly welcome new members who share this commitment!

We take turns leading by selecting something for the group

to read, view or listen to during the week which we then discuss during our meeting.

The person who made the selection provides discussion questions, determines the format for our discussion, and leads the discussion. Another volunteer opens with prayer or a devotional reading.

We have about a dozen members. As we grow larger, we are open to forming additional groups that have the same or different study formats. **For information contact Lucinda Huffaker at [lucinda.huffaker@gmail.com](mailto:lucinda.huffaker@gmail.com).**







## *Fall Kickoff!*

# Small Groups, New Topics

### **Taking The Sermon Into The World – Via Zoom** **Sundays Following Live Streamed Worship at 10 a.m.**



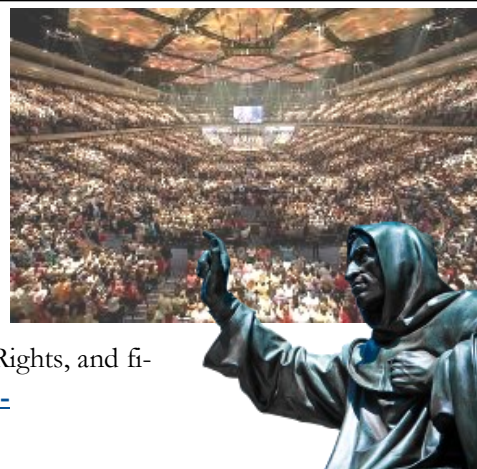
To live our beliefs is a goal of faith development, and our discussions of the week's worship service are planned around defining for ourselves how we will *incarnate* our Sunday worship experience as we live in our world.

Facilitators: Rotating members of the class.

To receive the Zoom invitation, please email Laura Sanchez at [laura3627@zoho.com](mailto:laura3627@zoho.com).  
Save the invitation to easily rejoin when we “time out.”

### **The History of Christianity From the Reformation to the Modern Megachurch** **Sundays, September 6 through November 22** **10 to 11 a.m. via Zoom**

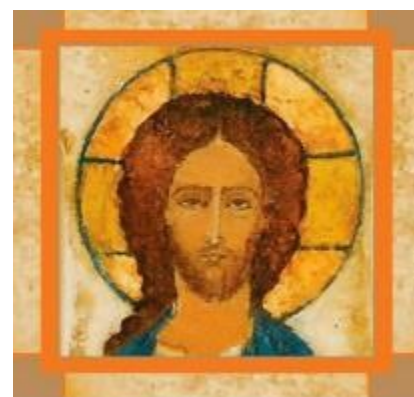
The video series is 36 lectures, culled down to 12 lectures. The class will be done before Advent. The course will trace from the dawn of Protestantism to the Puritans, the dawn of the Enlightenment, the First Great Awakening, the Social Gospel, Fundamentalism, the Death of God movement, the Gospel and Global Civil Rights, and finally the challenges we face in the 21st century. Contact Dave Coombs at [dfcas-soc@comcast.net](mailto:dfcas-soc@comcast.net) for the link.



Credit: Photo of Lakewood Megachurch: ToBeDaniel at Italian Wikipedia, January 11, 2013.

### **Review and Discuss Wisdom of Jesus** **Meet via Zoom Wednesdays, Noon to 1:30 p.m.**

Looking for a new perspective on your spiritual journey? Join us as we explore *The Wisdom Jesus* by Cynthia Bourgeault. We'll look at the wisdom literature in the Bible, learn new discoveries about how early Christians understood Jesus' teachings, and get a fresh take on key concepts like what it means to live a life poured out for the sake of others, as well as explore spiritual practices. The first Zoom meeting began Wednesday, August 19, but you are always welcome to join! For more information, contact Sarah Stribling at [sarah\\_stribling@msn.com](mailto:sarah_stribling@msn.com).



### **Terry and HollyAnn's Great Adventures**

Join us on safe and healthy trips that nourish the mind, body and soul. We will travel near and, someday, far. If interested, contact Terry Bailey at [bai-leyzoobob@comcast.net](mailto:bai-leyzoobob@comcast.net). Watch the Friday Memo and [www.srvumc.org](http://www.srvumc.org) for more info!



# Getting Ready for Courtyard Services

*Reminder: Joining in live stream worship on Facebook or downloading services from YouTube are still the safest way to worship.*

Thank you to Boyd Hasik, Brian Roberts, Jeff Lang, Marilyn Clarke and Susan Dowling for their recent efforts to set up the courtyard for up to forty worshipers each Sunday for outdoor services. *The next scheduled worship service on the church campus is September 13.*

As a reminder, if you attend a courtyard service, you should not move furniture yourself: please ask a monitor to assist you with your seating if you want an adjustment. The volunteers who set up the area have given careful consideration to the amount of sun a particular area gets during the scheduled worship time and have tried to place seating to optimize shade as well as social distancing. If appropriate social distancing can't be maintained while giving you some shade, then you may be reseated for everyone's safety.

It is not clear how many Sundays services will be available outside. The weather must be cooperative, and public health policies for the county and state must continue to permit them.

*Remember, we will continue to live stream services at 9 a.m., and worshipping at home is the safest way to worship.*



*Susan models the sign that guides traffic flow. Protocols for gatherings during the pandemic specify using separate entrances and exits.*



*Top: Boyd and Brian tape off household seating areas in squares. Middle: "X" marks the spot! It is important to keep furniture where it is positioned. Ask a monitor for help if you are uncomfortable. Bottom: Organizing smaller items to avoid sharing pens, for example.*



# September Communion Offering

The September Communion offering will be going to the **Discovery Counseling Center of the San Ramon Valley**. Established in 1971, community-based, nonprofit Discovery Counseling Center offers affordable and high-quality mental health services for individuals and families in the greater San Ramon Valley community. Some of the services offered include individual therapy for children through seniors, couples, family and group counseling; school counseling intervention programs; alcohol and drug recovery; counseling for LGBTQ individuals, and more.

This venerable, local organization works in schools and other community outlets to reach people in all stages of life and facing a variety of struggles, from divorce to substance abuse. The Discovery Center has two counseling centers, one located in Danville (Town and Country Shopping Center, near McCaulou's) and a satellite center located in San Ramon.

Together with San Ramon Valley Unified School District, The Discovery Counseling Center offers anti-bullying programs EmpowHer and Guy'd to Greatness, which has operated in ten of the district's elementary schools to reach its fourth- and fifth-graders. Discovery Counseling Center also provides the school district with a program for students receiving a first-time alcohol, tobacco or marijuana suspension to offer counseling as a means to reduce suspension days.

Furthermore, its mental health services create a training environment for a few students completing their post-masters or third-year doctoral education under the supervision of licensed Psy.D., MSW and MFT staff.

The **Thrift Station** opened in 1973 to support the Discovery Center's efforts and has become a fixture of downtown Danville. Give to the Center by donating quality household items and clothing for the Thrift Station to sell at their 486 San Ramon Valley Boulevard location in Danville, at the Crossroads shopping center. Bring your gently used clothes, shoes and household items to the back door of the store to drop them off. You can also shop there yourself, Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Finally, you could opt to volunteer at the Thrift Station. Over one hundred volunteers manage sales, take in donations, sort, price and display donated items available for sale in the shop. **Contact [thriftstation@discoveryctr.net](mailto:thriftstation@discoveryctr.net) or call the Thrift Station at (925) 820-1988.**

**For a further list of mental health services or to schedule an appointment, go to [www.discoveryctr.net](http://www.discoveryctr.net) or call (925) 837-0505. The Discovery Center is not a crisis center: if you require immediate help, call the Contra Costa Crisis Hotline at 211 or text "hope" to 20121.**



*The organization is not a crisis center. Discovery Counseling Center urges anyone in need of immediate support to call the Contra Costa Crisis Hotline at 211 or text "hope" to 20121.*



# Upcoming Mission Opportunities

**Ongoing volunteer opportunity with the SodBusters!** The SodBusters serve our church by volunteering one Friday morning per month for two or three hours to help keep our lawns and gardens mowed, edged, swept, pruned and weeded. The result of their efforts is a significant improvement in the appearance of our grounds and thousands of dollars in annual savings.



For those who can't commit to a Friday morning we also have opportunities to "adopt" a section of the garden or a specific task at a time that works with your schedule.

*We wish to thank current SodBusters include Richard Carter, Alan Christian, Dave Coombs, Bob Dominici, Steve Garnick, Greg Koos, Paul Kuelz, Harry Knapp, Beth McClelland, Jim McKnight, Larry Pasquale, Rob Rudo, Pete Ruotsi, Ken Studer, Gary Swanson, Elke Torgersen and Walt Torgersen*

*Please contact Gary Swanson at [garyswanson811@gmail.com](mailto:garyswanson811@gmail.com) or at 925.437-2887.*

## Mission Memories...

### Meals With Grace Reach Contra Costa Medical Center on July 29

Thanks to our Meals With Grace volunteers and Simple Elegance Catering for the meals in support of area essential healthcare workers. The boxed lunch menu provided included quinoa crunch or Asian chicken salads, spinach and ricotta cannelloni or penne with chicken and sundried tomato cream sauce, and an entrée of chicken piccata in lemon caper sauce.



## Winter Nights in 2020-21

Winter Nights is trying to adapt to current regulations and circumstances in their planning for the 2020-21 homeless housing season. They have circulated a plan that has each church hosting for four weeks. They anticipate food delivery to be partly from restaurants and partly from the congregations. There will be a reduced number of homeless guests. They emphasize the need for the guests to have freedom to leave the facility for recreation and exercise.

I have discussed this plan with Pastor Kim and our partners, St. Isidore's and Danville Congregational. We all reluctantly agree: There is no way we can participate in Winter Nights under these circumstances. We have become very knowledgeable with the regulations and constraints in the process of working to initiate an outdoor service. This plan simply will not work for us.

I have so informed Winter Nights, expressed our regret, and offered fundraising and meal delivery for up to a week to an outside drop location. Our partners will probably assist with that.

Winter Nights may come back with another plan. However, I think they are under some serious constraints, as are we.

For now, at least, it looks like we will not be hosting Winter Nights in Wesley Center this coming season. In fact, I wonder how many churches will find that they can do what is being asked. It is with a heavy heart that I convey this disappointing news to you.

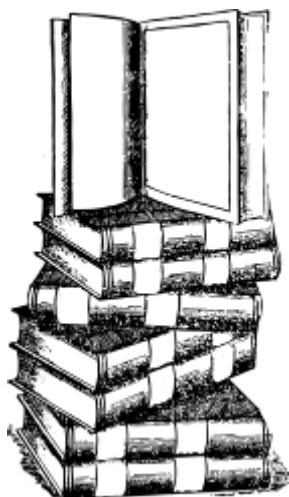
**Bob Baker**

*Winter Nights Coordinator*

## Mission Memories...



*Above: Walt and Elke Torgerson rake some leaves together. Don't forget your mask if you think you might encounter anyone who isn't in your household while SodBusting!*



### Looking for "Between the Bookends"?

The Library Committee says this column will return when the church is fully open.

They miss their library work and time with church members.

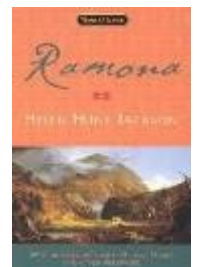
## Afternoon Book Group

**Monday, September 21, 1 p.m.**

**Location TBD**

***Ramona* by Helen Hunt Jackson**

**Discussion Leader: Sharon Ross**



Because the COVID-19 situation is constantly changing, watch for updates about location or Zoom information. **Request information from** [glkoos@comcast.net](mailto:glkoos@comcast.net).



# Church Mailbag: Thank You!

Our community service is appreciated! In July, the church office received thank-you notes from **Bea Y. Purdue at MedShare (front)** and from **Leslie Gleason at Trinity Center (middle)**.

The handwritten note from Purdue, the Interim Northeast Regional Director and National Development Manager for MedShare reads:

“We are so grateful for your support!”

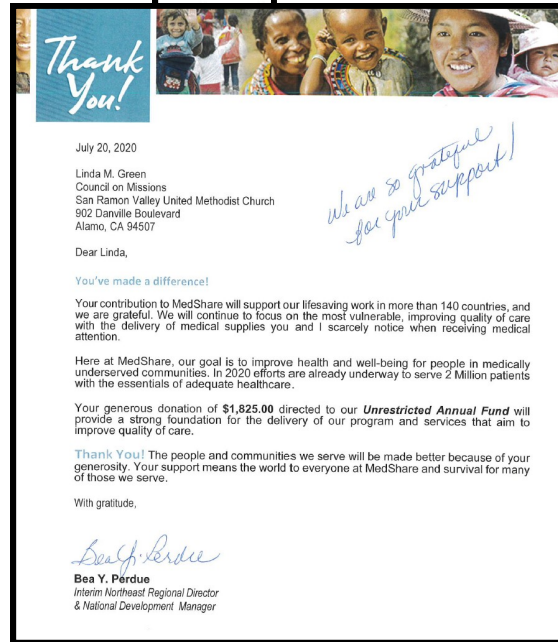
She thanks SRVUMC for the donation of \$1825 to MedShare’s Unrestricted Annual Fund,

Gleason’s handwritten note reads:

“Your faithful support—in so many ways—makes all the difference in the lives of our vulnerable neighbors!”

He thanks SRVUMC for the July donation of \$1500 in food.

The church office has also received a thank-you note from **Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County (back)** thanking SRVUMC for its August \$1000 donation.



Thank you for your generous contribution of \$1,825.00 to MedShare. Your partnership is critical to us and those that are at risk of homelessness.

g doors to opportunity for homeless and working supported access to services and resources. for the better. In particular, our program has been able to obtain employment and housing.

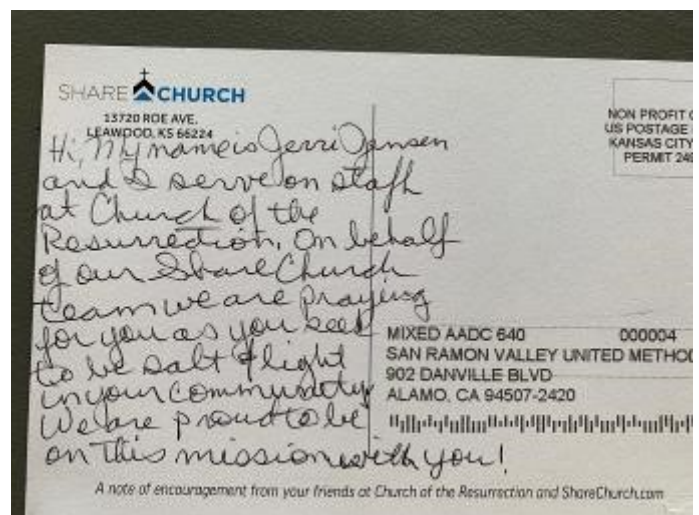
ending homelessness. With the help of investment improvements in the availability of basic human the under-served adult homeless community as well

to create a community that cares for homeless and age of safety, friendship and dignity.

*unfaithful support - in so many ways - makes all the difference in the lives of our vulnerable neighbors!*

donations, volunteers, and more: [www.trinitycenter.org](http://www.trinitycenter.org). Trinity Center  
Alamo, CA 94507 (925) 949-8722  
Alamo, CA 94507

## Words of Encouragement From a Kansas Church



The handwritten note on this postcard from the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, reads:

“Hi, My name is Jerri Jensen, and I serve on staff at Church of the Resurrection. On behalf of our ShareChurch team, we are praying for you as you seek to be salt & light in your community. We are proud to be on this mission with you!”



# Family Ministries

## *Ways To Connect During Social Distancing*

### Parent Connection

**Thursday, September 10, 8 to 8:45 p.m.**

**Via Zoom**

Parent Connection Zoom Support: Share ideas, listen and care for each other during a **pandemic!** *Email Laura Roy at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org) to get the Zoom link.*

Can we partner with your kids? Do you have a wish or way we can support your family? Help with reading, writing or math? Let Laura know and we will seek partners for online help.

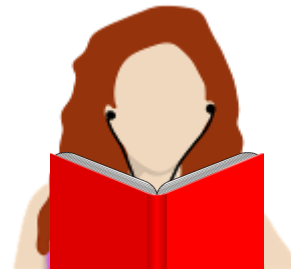


### Partner with Families

Would you be willing to spend 30 minutes to an hour online with our students?

- Reading or listening to readers
- Helping with math or science
- Investing in our kids!

*Email Laura Roy at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org).*



United Methodist  
**Preschool**



Where  
love grows

#### What is the United Methodist Preschool?

- It is a place where children learn through active engagement and play.
- It is a place where Christian values are taught and modeled
- It is a place where families are supported and learn together.
- It is where our church reaches out to the broader community.
- It is where laughter, art and music abound.
- It is a place where love grows.





## In Other Family Ministries News

**Reopening Sunday School.** We are working with the task force and the UMC to find the safest way to begin to hold classes in person. Watch for further details soon. Questions? Email Laura Roy at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org).

We had a great week at our virtual Knights of North Castle! Through the week the children learned to “Armor Up” with Truth, Justice, Peace, Faith and Salvation. They learned to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. (*Ephesians 6:10*) Even online we had music, crafts, stories and more!

We had fun dropping off “Popping in to say hi” bags with otter pops and lots of other goodies to encourage the children as the head back to school this week.



## 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 to 12)

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

(925)837-5243 ext.109

## Sunday School Topics

### Week One

*Ecclesiastes 4:9-12: Two people are better than one*

SAY THIS: Choose your friends carefully.

### Week Two

*1 Samuel 20: David and Jonathan*

SAY THIS: Friends love one another.

### Week Three

*1 Kings 19:14-21; 2 Kings 2:1-15: Elijah and Elisha*

SAY THIS: Friends encourage one another.

### Week Four

*John 21:1-19: Jesus Forgives Peter*

SAY THIS: Friends forgive one another. Friendship is using your words and actions to show others you care.

**REMEMBER THIS:** “A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes.”

*Proverbs 17:17, NIrV*

## Every Sunday

### Join us for Zoom Sunday school!

The 3's through Grade 2 meet at 10 a.m. with teacher Laura and the third through fifth graders meet with teacher Tom at 10:45 a.m. Email Laura at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org) for the Zoom code. We play games, have a story, and check in with each other.

## Weekly Programming

Watch for information about when Middle School and High School Youth meetings will resume.

## Music

Watch for information about the Children's and Youth Choirs, as well as Bros and Belles handbells, when we can resume on-campus activities.



*Zoom VBS with Laura Roy, teaching in the upper left corner of the screen.*



*A armor up! VBS Knights of North Castle rocked a lot of great looks!*

# Among Ourselves

## Health Concerns...

Nancy Alexander	Susie McKnight
Shana Carroll	Dean McWilliams
Leslie Gross	Marsha Perkins
JoAnn Hirsch	

## Continued Prayers For...

All those who live with long-term illness, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families, Bob DeChene, Doug Domergue, Connie Erickson, Felicia Hildard, Joan Lee, Lea Patteson, Lillian Scherer; Ann Schroeder, Shirley Slater, Joan Webb, Jeannine Woolery

## Remembering a Friend...

Word has been received that **Pat Shoner** passed on July 22. Pat and her husband, Dick, who predeceased her, were active members of SRVUMC starting in the mid-1970s until moving to assisted living in 2015.

## Name Tags

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

## Thank You...

I would like to thank my church family for all your lovely cards, flowers and food at the time of the death of my husband, David. It was a blessing and helped a great deal to make things easier at a particularly bad time. I miss everyone and can't wait until it is safe to be back in church again. Meanwhile, I enjoy the service on-line and want to also thank all who make it possible.

**Gay Scott**



# September Celebrations

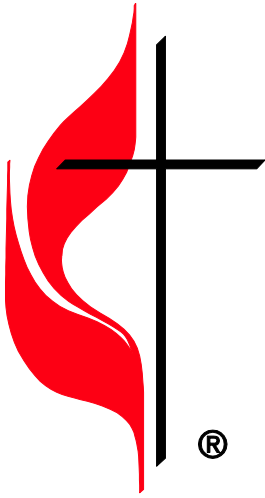


## *Birthdays*

1 Dianne Ehlers Meaghan Krakoff	Terry Stocking Linda Stone	Judy Takeda
2 Brian Stephenson	12 Brigitte Greene	21 Don Brockman Sam Stephenson
3 Catherine Ehlers Lucille Eichelberger (96)	13 Sandi Cook	Brad Stribling
4 Austin Maddux Ellie Maddux	14 Elena Fenoglio Bill Fulcher	23 Holland Ericson Irv Skeoch
5 Jillian Ericson	Nathan Morones	Kristina Toma
6 Nicholas Stocking Ray Winter	Mike Nicco	24 Alonzo Altamirano Tim Buckley
7 James Smith Steve Wood	16 Gary Osterhout	Kerry Davis
8 Ekua Impraim Corey Merchant	17 Kelly Nakaso	Jane Lang
Carrie Metcalf	18 Ela Altamirano	John Place
Brad Soderlund	David Coombs	25 Peggy Crawford Linda Albertoni Engman
9 Sienna Isbell Sheryl Kerr	John Harrison	Don Johnson
10 Alan Christian Jeff Stroin	Charlie Rigolfi	Alex Maddux
Ray Tombaugh	19 Lyn Arcott	26 Pat Ryan
11 Jackson Ludlam	Kirsten Ericson	27 Scott Ericson
	Gregg Mannell	29 James Kocins
	Ted Wolfram	30 Nell Ryan
	20 Marci Milligan Larry Pasquale	
	Carsyn Poole	
	Lydia Sidhom	

## *Wedding Anniversaries*

1 Carole Lynne & Ed Keller (57) Patricia Ludwig and Mike Prenger	15 Elizabeth & Robert De Chene (72)
2 Brenda & Doug Domergue	16 Lee & Bill Rust
3 Susie & Jim McKnight (60)	19 Teresa & Jeff Stroin
4 Nicky & Mark Jewett	20 Jana & Ali Vojdani Amy & Sam Sidhom
6 Rebecca & Tom Byrom Judy & Brad Kobsar	23 Annette & Dan Whiting
11 Jamie & Rich Braden Joanne & Bill Van Bezey	24 Jeryn & Steven Smario
12 Jan & Bill Foulds	26 Karen & Brian Steffy
13 Joan & Dave Webb (62)	28 Connie & David Lowe



# SEPTEMBER 2020

## Worship Schedule

Live stream on Facebook 9 a.m.

Courtyard Worship Sundays 10:15 a.m.

Child Care is temporarily discontinued during in-person worship.

September 2020

Time-valued material — Deliver promptly

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