



Valley Messenger

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

OCTOBER 2020

Pastor's Pulse ~

Dancing on Grapes

Twenty years ago, during a Stewardship Season at San Ramon Valley UMC, church member Dee Cleveland spoke to our congregation. Her words come to mind often, reminding me of our purpose as a church.

Dee told us that when she drove home at night, she always appreciated the light shining from our church sanctuary. The light often gave her comfort and hope; she would look forward to seeing it on her commute home. Dee then went on to tell of the many ways the light from this church made a difference in her life, and in the community around us. Her words touched us, and encouraged us to support our church. Dee has since passed on, and I miss her. Her words continue to steady and guide me.

In October, we begin our Stewardship Season, and you'll be invited to support our church with your financial pledges. You'll be receiving an email letter from our Stewardship co-chairs, **Megan and Mike Thompson**, as well as an electronic pledge card.

If you need to have the stewardship letter mailed to you, please let Patsy Kyles in the church office know: (925)837-5243.

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Next Issue: November 2020

*Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik newsletter@srvumc.org by **October 15, 2020**.*

Stewardship is the act of being a steward. A steward is a person given responsibility to care for something of value, something we treasure. Stewardship is about taking care of something considered worth caring for and preserving. In worship in October, we'll be celebrating the light this church offers through our mission trips, family and youth ministries, music, as well as the ways we serve the local community around us. Our sermon series will be "Dancing on Grapes: Finding Joy and Delight in a Generous Life."

How can we be good stewards in a time of great anxiety? The specific things you decide to do as a steward of your church family will vary to the person, but here are a few ideas:

This is a great time to check in on each other—if someone comes to mind, give them a call.

How might you show your caring for your church family through helping out, giving of your time and talents? Perhaps there's a task that another church member is no longer able to take on that you could help with. If you are looking for a way

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to volunteer at church, we need you! **Contact Terry Sherman at dtsh@sbcglobal.net who leads our Nominations and Lay Leadership Committee or Pastor Kim at krisedorph@srvumc.org.**

Maybe there's someone you've meant to thank for the work they do. Why not drop a note or email just sharing your appreciation?

What about your own pledge? Are you on schedule? In times of anxiety people can forget to get their pledge payments in, and that can run havoc with a church budget. Bills still need to be paid, and ministries still need to be funded. Thank you for your financial support.

In this time, we are newly aware of how much Church and community mean to us. Let's practice being faithful stewards. We'll all feel a little bit better as a result.

Pastor Kim

Reconciling Ministries Update Exciting News From the Reconciling Ministries Network!



In the eighteen months since the Special Session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church met in St. Louis, MO, the RMN has experienced a surge in new member churches and groups.

Going into the Special Session, the RMN had 934 member communities. In the months since, the RMN has added another 383 churches/groups! Bolstered by this incredible increase in membership, the RMN has plotted a way forward called **Rooted and Rising**. The details surrounding this initiative will be revealed soon. Be on the lookout for more information!

The SRVUMC Women's Retreat Rescheduled for Danville Event

April 2021—Watch for Information! San Damiano Retreat

Our annual retreat, usually held at Villa Maria Del Mar and scheduled for February 2021 is canceled due to COVID-19. **Instead, we are planning a one-day, weekday retreat locally at San Damiano at the end of April 2021.** This will be along the lines of the Wise Women's retreat which has been held there in the past. **Pastor Mantu** has agreed to lead the day! Look for more details after the first of the year. Thank you, Your SRVUMC Women's Retreat planning team.

"Our support of the women who allege sexual misconduct by the song writer, David Haas."

In solidarity with the women who have come forward with more than a dozen allegations of sexual misconduct by the song/hymn writer David Haas, we are planning on suspending singing his songs as a congregation in worship. We recognize that this is a small step to support these courageous women, but it is an important symbol of our belief that our faith communities must be constantly open and vigilant to do all we can to support safe sanctuaries for all. Feel free to send me any questions about this decision by our worship leaders.

In solidarity,

Pastor Mantu

Pathway to Discipleship in the works!

Message from Pastor Mantu

Methodist Roots

Many people may not recognize that the genius behind the early Methodist Church was not just new theological ideas about God, but a new way of being church. When Wesley would go out into the fields to shout about social responsibility and God's grace, he did not just leave the people to their own devices. The genius of Wesley was that he knew that people needed support and clarity on their early walk with God. This took the form of follow-up teachings at people's homes, called society meetings. New Christians would also commit to classes (less teaching and more checking-in) each week to really try and become grounded in faith and to make a difference in their neighborhoods. As people matured, they would sometimes form bands to reach greater levels of mutual accountability. When these mature people also witnessed their faith, the growth of those churches, in number and deepening of faith, was explosive.

Healthy Church Initiative

Over the next year, our church will be reconnecting with its Methodist Roots as a way to become a healthier and more vital church. This is called a **Health Church Initiative**, a wider Annual Conference training, and it includes in this process a call to put together a pathway to discipleship that mirrors Wesley's genius and speaks to our 21st century cultural realities. **Sarah Stribling and I** will be forming a team of leaders to prayerfully and intentionally discern how we are to support disciples over the next five to ten years. This is not to replace what has already been learned about small groups and teaching, but rather to cull together the wisdom of the years and organize and plan thoughtfully. This will likely look like a metaphor we can all understand that helps us deliberately support people in their walk. The first draft of this work will hopefully be done in the spring and will go into action by fall 2021. We will continue to give you updates as this work unfolds, but please pray for the process.



Statue of John Wesley, Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, KY. Photo: TheBigGiant at www.commons.wikimedia.org

Parent Connection

Parenting in COVID Times (Ted Talks with discussion)

Starting **mid-October** we will gather to share and discuss some of the difficult things that parents are dealing with while parenting in a pandemic. Interested? Contact **Laura Roy** at lroy@srvumc.org or **Mantu Joshi** at mjoshi@srvumc.org.



Attention Small Group Leaders!

Leadership Training and Support Meeting

Second Sundays of Each Month, 3 to 4 p.m.

Zoom

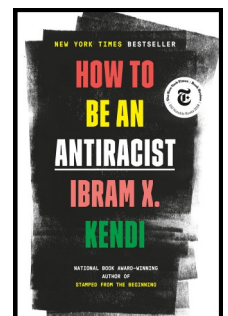
Next Meeting: October 11

Anti-Racism and the Church Begins October 18

Zoom

Join **Pastor Mantu** on a six-week, daytime exploration of **Ibram X. Kendi's** book, *How To Be an Anti-Racist*.

Details are being finalized, so email **Pastor Mantu** at mjoshi@srvumc.org for more information.



Dialogue for Change Meets This Fall

The adult education series Dialogue for Change, which meets for education, reflection, and discussion about critical racial issues, has continued to meet on Sunday mornings this fall. Having started in September with three sessions focused on systemic racism in the criminal justice system, we are now anticipating the gift of personal stories from three men in our church and local community on **October 4**—**Jonathan Robinson, Victor Hymes and Willie Mims**. We'll conclude our fall series on **October 11** with a video talk by Ibram X. Kendi, author of the bestseller, *How to Be an Antiracist*.

White Fragility

For six Sundays, **October 18 through November 22**, Bill Rust at wrusjrarb@aol.com, Chair of our SRVUMC Faith Development Committee, he will facilitate a discussion series based on the popular, widely-discussed book by Robin DiAngelo, *WHITE FRAGILITY: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*. Our discussions will guide us into a difficult confrontation with ourselves about our "white privilege," our resistance to seeing ("fragility"), and how that fragility shapes our attitudes and actions toward others. It is about "whiteness" and the benefits of being "white" (whatever that means) that we don't even see. It's about us and our own blindness, not about "Blacks" or the Black experience. This book challenges us to see ourselves and our white privileges as "real" privileges not enjoyed by others.

Read!

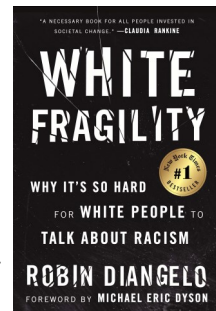
The Speaking Out Committee is enthusiastic about the start of one and possibly more groups reading important books about racial issues. We hope that others might be encouraged to start their own reading groups. Our goal is always compassionate engagement against racial insensitivity and injustice through continued self-reflection and education. Toward that goal, we have created a resource, called [Take Action](#), that provides lots of ideas, examples, and resources for making small and big changes in our thinking and behavior.

We hope you will plan to join us for any of the exciting and challenging sessions of Dialogue for Change. Dialogue for Change is a program of the Speaking Out Committee of SRVUMC.

To participate, please contact **Patsy Kyles** in the church office at pkyles@srvumc.org or by phone at **925-428-9873** for the Zoom and video links. Please consider gathering a small group of people that might share your interest in learning and discussing more about a topic. For more information, contact the church office or **Lucinda Huffaker** at lucinda.huffaker@gmail.com.



Author Ibram X. Kendi



New Way To Get the Word Out: media@srvumc.org

It can be confusing to figure out where to send your announcements. Now you can send your information to a single email, and **Linda Green, Patsy Kyles, Shana Carroll and Lisa Jancarik** will each have access to the same information. This way, you'll have consistent information wherever anyone looks.

Email your announcements to media@srvumc.org. We'll get them into the monthly newsletter, the church website, or emails like the Friday Memo. Now use one point of contact for any outlet.



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 4** will be the day our own church joins with other Christians from a range of denominations to celebrate our unity.

World Communion Sunday began in 1936 to celebrate our ecumenical oneness in Christ with a spirit of unity and peace. In The United Methodist Church, the Sunday offering collected that day funds scholarships and mentoring for students from around the world. Specifically, the offering collected on World Communion Sunday is apportioned in the following way (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 host 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 or www.gbhem.org for more information.



Volunteer at MedShare!

October 10, 9 a.m. to Noon

New COVID-19 safety measures in place so groups of up to ten people can sort medical supplies for those in need.

Volunteers must preregister, wear mask and gloves (provided) at all times, and socially distance.

Anyone who is feeling unwell will be asked to leave. Anyone who has been hospitalized or in a medical facility recently should wait fourteen days before volunteering.

Contact **HollyAnn Melton** at Hollyannmelton22@yahoo.com for information or to sign up.



Bubbles & Chalk!

Saturday, October 3, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ARC Parking Lot

Come have some fun! We will have socially distanced spaces set up and provide chalk, bubbles, music and games! BYO chairs and blankets. Parents and kids can be creative and play while visiting with other church families.

To join in the fun, families agree to wear a masks, stay six feet apart and sign a COVID-19 waiver. **Email Laura Roy for information at lroy@srvumc.org.** Invite your friends, too!



Mission Memories...

Wildfires – We Respond Unconditionally

The stories are heartbreaking. Loss of home, loss of pets, loss of life. Can you imagine losing everything you own? Yet, time and time again, fire victims say, “I am grateful to be alive and safe in this moment.”

A major fire in this unprecedented wildfire season, the CZU Lightning Fire in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties burned over 86,000 acres and destroyed or damaged over 1000 homes.

The Early Response Team (ERT) of the California-Nevada Conference deployed to this wildfire in early September and continued on site for much of the month. This team is composed of trained church members from several congregations.

Our initial role was to staff a table at the Response Recovery Center (RRC) in Santa Cruz. The RRC is where a collection of state and county agencies, plus selected nonprofits assemble to help fire victims.

We handed out hygiene kits and gift cards to help with immediate needs. But our main focus was to offer “fire buckets,” cleaning supplies and tools to residents who lost their homes or needed to cleanup smoke damage.

SRVUMC generously donated fire buckets and tools. Fire buckets include protective clothing and other supplies for going through the ashes of a destroyed home. In addition, church members donated to the Conference Disaster Response Fund. That fund and support from UMCOR financed our work.

In addition to assisting several hundred victims at the RRC, our ERT personnel helped with “sifting ashes.” We looked for valuables or keepsakes that might have survived. It is a sad and depressing process, emotionally challenging for the victims...and for us. Certainly, it is not a moment of closure. It is part of starting down the road to recovery. The shock is overwhelming. So, our role is as much offering a caring presence as it is the dirty work of shifting ashes.

Eventually the bulldozers come to remove the debris. But thankfully they cannot take away fond memories. Life begins anew.



Our Community Thanks You!

Monument Crisis Center

August 27, 2020

Dear Members of San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your wonderful contribution to Monuments Crisis Center through this special collection through your July Communion Offering. Your support, especially though your Council on Missions, is so appreciated!

Your help is at work right now in our mission as an emergency food pantry and nonprofit family resource center serving Contra Costa Country. We are doing everything possible to sustain our operations and provide nutritious groceries, basic essentials and critical support to all in need during these incredibly difficult times.

Your thoughtful generosity will directly assist the most vulnerable. We will put your donation to immediate good purpose.

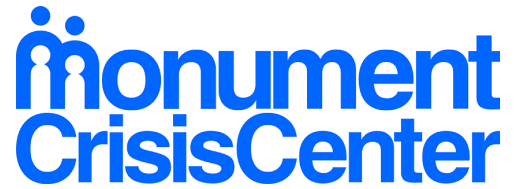
As our partners, you are sustaining thousands of children, seniors, adults and families. Your generous donation will help many people who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for being a vital part of this effort. Now more than ever, our community needs our assistance. We are truly thankful for your support!

Stay well and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Sandra Scherer

Executive Director



Did You Know?

According to Monument Crisis Center's [website](#), each month the organization provides a seven- to nine-day supply of food to 1,100 households in Contra Costa Country.

(For reference, Alamo, CA has 5,223 households according to the last census.)

September 10, 2020

Dear Pastor Kim, Laura, Debbie and Wonderful Community of SRVUMC,

The entire team here at the Monument Crisis Center is truly appreciative for your continued support. Your recent participation in our Back-2-School food bag drive was terrific! Your community so generously donated 105 filled grocery bags, 92 gift cards and an additional 130 pounds of assorted non-perishable food items. Your donation makes an immediate impact in the lives of so many low income and underserved families and their school age children, who struggle daily with the challenges that accompany poverty, and whose precarious situations have been further devastated by the health and economic effects of our global COVID-19 pandemic. Since this fall semester continues to be a "distance learning" model, families who depend on school breakfast and lunch are even further impacted. We send all of you our heartfelt thanks—your help with grocery bags and gift cards has been so remarkable!

As you know, the past few months have seen rising health concerns, stay-at-home directives and skyrocketing unemployment, resulting in dire situations for many, some who have never faced these kinds of challenges before. Many people are dealing with significant stress and uncertainty, especially about how to feed their family, pay their bills, and keep a roof over their heads. To compound the issue, they are joining thousands already struggling. Your support is critical, helping us to serve an average of 278 households per distribution day, (1100-1200 individuals), representing a 300% increase in our essential food needs and resource supplies. Since mid-March, with help from donors like you, we have been able to distribute nutritious life sustaining food to over 33,000 people.

As the needs continue to rise sharply in our community, we thank all of the families of SRVUMC for your great generosity

and your heartfelt compassion. During these challenging times, we also realize and recognize that many of your families have also been impacted. We send you our best wishes for wellness and safety.

Sincerely,

Sandra Scherer

Executive Director

sscherer@monumentcrisiscenter.org

What Has Rebecca Been up to Lately?

Besides getting ready for **Fall Retreat in a Box** (see **Page 9 for more information!**) and running our regular weekly youth groups, Rebecca has also been visiting our youth! A social distance visit includes sitting six feet apart, a sweet treat, and a chance to check in about life and faith. Parents are saying:

"The Joshi family wanted to share our gratitude for a special time of connection Becca made the other week. Our daughter, Janae, was just starting middle school, and Becca came with homemade goodies and spent a couple hours with her in our front courtyard. Janae was so thankful for the personal time and the extra effort Becca made to help her feel connected even in these pandemic times."

—**The Joshi Family**

"Rebecca has done an incredible job keeping the youth connected during this strange time. She has consistently reached out to check in. She has dropped off brownie mix and other treats. She came by to have a social distance catch-up with my daughter. My daughter was able to talk about all that is going on right now. It brought me such peace seeing them outside chatting over otter-pops. She has also continued youth group through Zoom—as well as adding a book club. Honestly, this would have an easy time for my daughter to feel completely removed from church—so we are beyond grateful to Rebecca for keeping the connection alive."

—**The Corey Family**

Does Your Youth or College Student Feel Isolated Sometimes?

If you have a youth or college student who is feeling isolated and alone, let Rebecca know at rbernstein@srvumc.org, and she can extend a hand and a conversation.

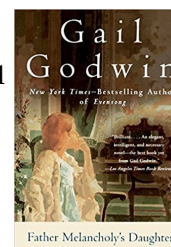
Afternoon Book Group

Monday, October 19, 1 p.m.

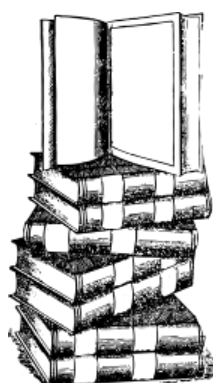
Meeting Location TBD

***Father Melancholy's Daughter* by Gail Godwin**

Discussion leader Melinda Love



Contact Debbie Koos at glkoos@comcast.net for meeting information.



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.

Terry and HollyAnn's Great Adventures

Watch for October Outing!

Details in the Friday Memo

Contact Terry Bailey at bai-leyzoobob@comcast.net for more information or to share your interest!

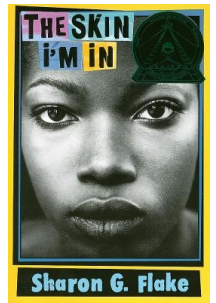


Youth Matters: Youth Reads!

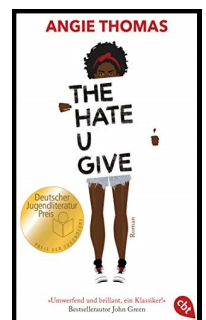
Book Clubs. Per Youth Director Rebecca Bernstein's September 15 report to the Church Council, book clubs for the middle school and for the high school groups have been well-received, discussing most recently issues of race and fitting in. Two participants' own reviews of their respective books appears to the right.

Fall Retreat-in-a-Box. The pandemic has forced a rethink of the annual retreat. Instead of in-person fellowship, this year the gang will have a box for each day of the retreat. Don't worry! There are plenty of opportunities to talk and sing together. Each box includes materials for a project and a tasty snack. *See below.*

Within the book club for middle school youth group we have been reading a book by the title *The Skin I'm In*. The book follows a girl named Maleeka who is Black and faces racism in her school due to her skin, the clothes she wears, the way she acts and how reserved she is. The book shows us how she deals with the struggles of this sort of environment from a first person perspective making us feel like a witness along for the ride witnessing her change in social life, hair style, clothes, appearance and almost every aspect of her school life. The book pulls us through these events sometimes in detail and sometimes with vague descriptions but it doesn't stop to sugar coat the truth, we witness verbal and physical abuse from her colleagues at school, sexual harassment on the street in one chapter, a semi-dysfunctional home life with her mother wanting what is good for her and Maleeka just wanting to be accepted at school. —J.T. Kennedy



The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas is a good book, to say the least. It raises a lot of important questions about the current position of Black people in America while telling a decent teen drama story at the same time. It may make you uncomfortable with certain topics, but it's important to at least attempt to understand the author's perspective. Through this book, we've been able to talk about various aspects of how racism affects society at youth group. These topics include implicit bias, justice, access to housing, and many more. My biggest takeaway from our discussions was how opportunities are generally less available for Black people. Then, the few who do get opportunities face more challenges than usual along the way. Most people, given the chance, will succeed; we just need to create more chances for people who don't get them. —Justin Byers



FALL RETREAT IN A BOX

OCTOBER 23-25

\$30/person

A WEEKEND OF THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

BROUGHT TO YOU IN A BOX

MATTHEW 18:3

TRULY I TELL YOU, UNLESS YOU CHANGE AND
BECOME LIKE CHILDREN, YOU WILL NEVER ENTER THE
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

TO REGISTER: USE THE QR CODE OR VISIT SRVUMC.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL REBECCA
RBERNSTEIN@SRVUMC.ORG

SCAN ME

Youth Matters:

Can You Be a Confirmation Mentor?

Mentor Information

A Confirmation Mentor should be over age 18, not related to the youth, and approved by the youth and Rebecca. Time requirements do depend on the mentor/confirmand relationship, but see below for the minimum requirements. The mentor does not have to be a member of SRVUMC but should be an active part of the SRVUMC community.

What Makes a Good Mentor?

You might think you need to have all the answers to be a good mentor. You don't. You may feel inadequate in your knowledge of the Bible and understanding of the Christian faith. If you're like most people, you have some questions, even doubts of your own. That's okay. Healthy Christian relationships don't happen as a result of one person knowing the correct answers and feeding them to the other person. A healthy mentor/confirmand relationship involves two people growing to know and love each other, willing to ask honest questions and seek the answers together. The very word "disciple" means "student," or "learner."

What Does a Mentor Do?

Mentors are given more detailed guidelines at our meetings/mentor small groups (which meets twice monthly), but ideally a mentor is someone who can **BE**:

- **A friend and guide**—Offer companionship for the journey.
- **An example**—Allow your mentee to watch you live out your faith daily.
- **Open**—Your mentee will be encouraged to know you had similar struggles as a teenager and that through those struggles you learned what it means to trust God.
- **A listener**—Focus on your mentee's relationship with God and his/her growth in faith.
- **Encouraging**—All of us are more likely to grow when we receive positive affirmation. Don't just think a compliment, say it!
- **Caring**—Help your young person to become comfortable sharing with you.
- **Prayerful**—It is God who ultimately does the work of transforming lives. Pray for your mentee and trust God to

work through you.

And a mentor is someone who can **DO**:

- Call or text (call preferred) once per week to check in with the confirmand and ask for prayer requests.
- Share a meal or some other activity appropriate for the student once per month.
- Find and say hi to their confirmand every Sunday, if not most Sundays.

Do Mentors Need To Be on Confirmation Outings?

Short Answer: No!

Long Answer: Outings are COVID-dependent. Ideally, our confirmands will be experiencing a Jewish service, an Islamic service, and a Catholic service as a way of seeing/understanding other faith practices and having conversation around what we want our faith practice to look like. Additionally, (COVID-dependent) we will have a confirmation lock-in. All dates are TBD, pending pandemic updates and might be changed to online activities if conditions don't improve.

Ideally, mentors can be present for at least one confirmation class, at least one of the other faith services, and for part of the lock-in. I understand that people are busy so the group outings are not a mandatory part of being a mentor, but the phone calls, monthly check-ins, and Sunday drop-ins are!

Questions About If You Would Make a Good Mentor?

Email Rebecca at rbernstein@srvumc.org or call her at 925-518-7809.



In the Still of Fall, Something is Missing

By Beth McClelland

It is ever so quiet this morning as I work in the courtyard. There is a fine mist in the air; the trees are turning brilliant colors; it is beautiful but eerily quiet. As a few leaves float to the ground it feels serene, but something very important is missing from our campus...

Missing are the voices of inquiring children, laughter ringing from our preschool buildings and shouts of glee as young ones play and learn together. Missing are voices of young children singing in chapel, classrooms, and as they are walking to the playground. It is quiet in this courtyard—too quiet for October—even the hummingbird that loves to feed right outside a classroom seems to be hunting for his friends.

Missing are the sounds of joy of our playground being used. The squirrels have now taken up residence in the playhouse called “HOME”. The deer munch on apples planted years ago by children who are now in their final years of elementary education. The swings are idle.

Missing are the teachers whose patient guiding voices and actions gently modeled how to care for one another. They taught the 60 children who yearly graced our campus curriculum that will help them throughout life. The focus each month was one taken from **Galatians 5 verses 22-23** which teaches us about the Fruits of the Spirit: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” Missing this year is that powerful message to so many young souls.

Many of us miss our preschool, and that means it was important and served a purpose. Our Preschool Commission knows the preschool served the community in many ways. Indeed, in a sense, UMP is a mission in and of itself, reaching out and serving families in our community who then reach out and help others. We long for the preschool to safely reopen as soon as possible! It will take a lot of work, but the Preschool Commission is willing and ready to take that on. We hope that our future mornings won’t be quite so quiet!

Trunk or Treat! Drive Thru!

October 31, 3 to 5 p.m., ARC Parking Lot

The tradition will go on, and we need you! We will have a drive-thru parade where families drive by decorated cars. All with social distancing, masks and lots of precautions! ***You decorate a car and (safely) hand out treats and surprises that we will provide.***

One our goals is to reach out to families especially those who came to VBS and our preschool families. This is a great way to connect.

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.

Please let me know if you will come and party with us!

Contact Laura Roy at lroy@srvumc.org.

Trunk or Treat Donations: We can’t collect candy or small toys this year because of COVID-19. If you would like to donate for us to purchase special surprises please note Trunk or Treat on your donation. Thank you!





Calendar

October 3 – Bubbles and Chalk, 10 to 11:30 a.m. *See Page 5 for more info!*



October 31 – Trunk or Treat, 3 to 5 p.m. *See Page 11 for more info!*

Mid-October – Parenting in COVID Times (Ted Talks with discussion). *See below.*

Playground To Open Soon!

We are opening the playground for families to come for an hour to play! We are working on getting volunteers to welcome and sanitize between groups. Everyone must wear masks while outside the playground, sign a COVID-19 waiver and socially distance as needed. Watch for a SignUp Genius coming soon.

Session 1: Wednesdays 2 to 5 p.m.

- Use 2 to 3 p.m. and 4 to 5 p.m.

Session 2: Saturdays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- Use 9 to 10 a.m., 11 to 12 p.m.

Session 2: Saturdays 2 to 5 p.m.

- Use 2 to 3 p.m., 4 to 5 p.m.

Session 4: Sundays 1 to 4 p.m.

- Use 1 to 2 p.m., 3 to 4 p.m.

Contact Us!

Laura Roy

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

lroy@srvumc.org

(925)837-5243 ext 106

Rebecca Bernstein

Youth Ministries (Grades 6-12)

rbernstein@srvumc.org

(925)837-5243 ext.109

Sunday School Topics

Week One: Daniel 1, Daniel's Integrity

SAY THIS: Be truthful with your whole life.

Week Two: 1 John 1:9, No Secrets with God

SAY THIS: Being truthful with God keeps you close to Him.

Week Three: 2 Kings 5, Naaman and Elisha's Servant

SAY THIS: When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

Week Four: Philippians 4:8, Think on These Things

SAY THIS: Focus on what's true.

Integrity is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.

REMEMBER THIS: "Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught."

Proverbs 10:9, NIV



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. Teri Hawk directs.

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

Parent Connection

Parenting in COVID Times (Ted Talks with discussion)

Starting **mid-October** we will gather to share and discuss some of the difficult things that parents are dealing with while parenting in a pandemic. Interested? Contact **Laura Roy** at lroy@srvumc.org or **Mantu Joshi** at mjoshi@srvumc.org.

Among Ourselves

Health Concerns...

Nancy Alexander JoAnn Hirsch
Alina Begley Susie McKnight
Shana Carroll
Leslie Gross

Prayers for **Dean McWilliams** as he continues chemotherapy for lymphoma in stages 3 and 4.

Our Christian Sympathy...

To Doug Webb following the death of **Joan Webb**.

Continued Prayers For...

All those who live with long-term illness, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families, Bob De Chene, Doug Domergue, Connie Erickson, Felicia Hil-

lard, Joan Lee, Lea Patteson, Lillian Scherer; Ann Schroeder, Shirley Slater, Jeannine Woolery

Name Tags

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

From a Longtime Member...

Dear UMC Staff,

I want to inform you that my husband, **Charles Adam**, passed away July 30, 2020.

He was a longtime member and taught Sunday School for many years.

He appreciated the birthday cards he received through the years, also this month, and the attention he received while in rehab in 2019.

The poinsettia he received at Christmastime is doing well!

Kind regards,

Willy Adam

2451 Paddock Drive
San Ramon, CA 94583

October Celebrations



Birthdays

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Jeff Doyle | Barbara Schneider | Mikala Choy |
| Theresa Omar | 8 Doug Domergue | Priscilla Wolfram |
| 2 Bruce Fitch | 9 Teresa Marohn | 19 Walt Torgersen |
| Ariyana Vojdani | Darrellyn Orr | 20 Lauren Nakaso |
| Laurel Portman | Ann Radick | 21 Sharleen Keen |
| Sam Hawk | 10 Jim Rossini | 22 Bruce Benzler |
| Kim Maier | Pam Uitti | Nancy Campbell |
| 3 Jim Johnson | Bob Sada | Jana Vojdani |
| Heather Morgan | 11 Robbie Barton | Kelly Milligan |
| 4 Lance Schlichter | Susan Dowling | 23 Bruce Benzler |
| 5 Betty Dorsey | 12 Kellen Armanini | 24 Lauren Nakaso |
| Colby Milligan | Eric Perry | Karen Watson |
| Phillip Luecht | Madeleine Sepull | 25 Emily Doran |
| 6 Wendy Cooper | 14 Danni Sherman | Bob Schleicher |
| Gavin Isbell | Melissa Ward | 26 Rochelle Hoff |
| Jack Schramm | Larry Watson | 27 Alexi Lee |
| Dylan DeWalt | 15 John Brusher | 28 Bill Foulds |
| Millie Sherman | 16 Liz Bayat | 29 Bob Millinich |
| 7 Lydia Fenoglio | 17 Bill Lettis | Dale Stevenson |
| Lisa Laird | 18 Ida Dandridge | |

Wedding Anniversaries

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 6 Susan & Rick Doran | 17 Nancy & Epi Vazquez |
| 9 Liz & Skip George | 19 Marla & Stanley Nakaso |
| Jackie & Rudy Ceragioli (61) | Sherrie & Don Weis |
| 12 Cadi & Brian Stephenson | 21 Beth McClelland & Joseph Voelker |
| 13 Devon & Buck Drake | 22 HollyAnn Melton & Ted Nguyen |
| 14 Marti & Sketch Sketchley (53) | 23 Joan & Lyn Arscott (55) |
| 17 Margo & Ron Cefalo | 24 Kathleen & Nader Saghafi |