

The

# Valley Messenger

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

## We Are All in This Together

This past year, when everything was topsy-turvy, we figured out how to be church. Everyone on our staff felt your encouragement and support as we learned new ways to worship, serve and gather. Thank you!

As we move into a new chapter, we are still learning to innovate. Thanks to a generous and anonymous donation, we've hired a Director of Social Media. This is an investment in where we see growth—our online worship community. Sarah Stribling brings unique strengths to that role, as she has a seminary degree and is fluent in all things techy. Welcome, Sarah.

We continue to invest in our family, children and youth ministry. Laura Roy, Director of Family and Children Ministry remains full time, leading with grace and inspiration. She's created safe approaches to Trunk-or-Treat, vacation Bible school, bingo nights, Sunday School, and so much more. Thank you, Laura.

In addition, we have hired interim Youth Director Robbie Frederiksen to lead our youth program forward. Robbie offers online and in-person gatherings for youth and parents. Welcome, Robbie. And there's more! We are partnering with St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Danville to hold joint youth groups. St. Tim's is just over three miles from our campus, and the hope is to have more youth in attendance when we combine events. We welcome your prayers as we experiment with this approach.

I've listed some of my favorite things we have recently done. What do you like best about how we've been church this past year? Email me with your favorites at [kris-edorph@srvumc.org](mailto:kris-edorph@srvumc.org).

And we are not done yet. We are still figuring out how to be a church in a meaningful way. This is where we need your help.

## October 2021

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### Next Issue: November 2021

Have something you'd like included in next month's *Messenger*? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik at [news-letter@srvumc.org](mailto:news-letter@srvumc.org) by **October 15, 2021**. Or, email [media@srvumc.org](mailto:media@srvumc.org) to reach her, Patsy Kyles, Shana Carroll and Linda Green all at once.

# Announcements

As we move into our Stewardship Season, we ask for your financial support. In our church setting, we structure our giving around pledges. Families and individuals pledge an amount for the upcoming year. That way, we know how to wisely plan things like programs, staffing and maintenance needs on campus. With pledges, we have a sense of what income we can count on. Pledges can be paid in one or two payments, or monthly or weekly. The Stewardship Committee's letter appears on Page 3 of this newsletter, and a pledge card appears on Page 4. With your donation, you make church possible, and I am so grateful.

May we all experience the joy that comes from being church, together.

Pastor Kim



We are all in this  together.

## Serve as a Delegate to Annual Conference for SRVUMC

**October 29 through October 31**

Curious about how the United Methodist Church works? Wondering about future plans for the denomination? Please consider being a delegate to the Annual Conference of the California-Nevada Conference. At this yearly gathering, we worship, hear reports on many diverse aspects of the church, and **vote** on legislation that shapes our future. We have three delegate spots open, and delegates will participate in each of two sessions. The church covers expenses.

**Session 1:** Friday, October 8 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. via Zoom.

**Session 2:** October 29 through 31, in Sacramento. COVID protocols in place.

Contact Pastor Kim at [krisedorph@srvumc.org](mailto:krisedorph@srvumc.org) for additional information.

*SRVUMC, as part of the larger community, celebrated the Labor Day Parade in Danville by honoring our healthcare workers on the front lines of the pandemic.*





# Announcements

## Stewardship Campaign 2022 – Let's Do This Together!

*“Differences are not intended to separate, to alienate. We are different precisely in order to realize our need of one another.” – Africa’s Peace Bishop, Desmond Tutu*

The COVID-19 pandemic closed our church campus for most of 2020 and half of 2021. It kept us struggling to maintain our identity as a church. To fight the isolation many of us felt, some among us delivered meals, cards and friendly prayers for our homebound church kin. We learned new skills like videoconferencing so small groups could challenge the sense of disconnection that sometimes crept into our hearts. We also joined with one another and our neighboring community in new ways to help meet the needs of families and individuals facing hardships from the impact COVID-19 has had on jobs, housing, and health. God has blessed us with resilience as a church because we found ways to preserve the unity we cherish.

Debate lives among us, too. Even as we love one another, we have had to choose how to grow as a church in the last year or so. After animated examination of Methodist tradition and personal introspection, we overwhelmingly chose to identify ourselves as a Reconciling Church.

This year, our stewardship campaign takes the initiative to follow the example of “Africa’s Peace Bishop.” Bishop Tutu reminds us that we at San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church believe our differences and acceptance of everyone for who they are bind us together in community. We support each other—including you—by looking outward to be disciples of Jesus Christ in the world regardless of where you are on your own Discipleship Pathway (visit <https://srvumc.org/the-trail/> to consider **where you are on The Trail**).

The church’s work has always relied on your gifts and generous support as a big-hearted congregation. After the difficulties we have endured these past fifteen months, we need your financial support more than ever. Livestreaming video requires equipment, for example, and certain remodeling tasks keep us safer while on the church campus. This year, our stewardship campaign starts in early October, as we are hoping to reach a pledge goal that supports all of our important ministries by year end. That did not happen in 2021. Please consider making a pledge for 2022. You will all be hearing more about how to pledge and the impact your pledge can make in the coming weeks via online communications, email, church mailings and a few surprise videos from this committee.

We have included a pledge card with this mailing, and look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you all for your ongoing support,

Your Stewardship Team 2022,

Catharine Baker

Jeff Stroin

Pastor Kim Risedorph

Pastor Mantu Joshi

Lisa Jancarik

Sol Cuenco

# Announcements

## **“Who’s the Greatest of Us All?”**

*“Jesus shows us a different way, a way of treating each other that welcomes each other, even delights in each other.”*

**My total 2022 Pledge is \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**I plan to pay my pledge in the following installments (check one):**

- ☐ One or two payments
- ☐ Quarterly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Weekly

### **Preferred Method of Giving**

- ☐ [SRVUMC Website](#) (set up your own donation using a computer)
- ☐ Vanco Mobile Application (formerly GivePlus+)
- ☐ Check (mail or drop off)
- ☐ Check from Charitable Fund or Account (mail or drop off)
- ☐ Stock (contact Church office for account information; notify office of transaction)
- ☐ Credit Card (fill out section below for Church office to handle)
- ☐ Bank Autopay (contact church office for application)
- ☐ Prepay 2021 for 2022
- ☐ QR Code referenced here is for mobile giving



### **Please complete this section:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **FOR CREDIT CARD OR BANK AUTOPAY ONLY – Please provide the following information**

For ACH Bank Draft: Bank Name \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ (attached voided check)

For Credit Card: Visa/Mastercard # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**Signature (required)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return your pledge card to the church office on or before October 31, 2021**

**For questions or assistance, please contact our office manager, Sol Cuenco:**

**@ 925-837-5243, ext 104 or email [scuenco@srvumc.org](mailto:scuenco@srvumc.org).**

# Spiritual Growth

## Dialogue for Change Study Group

**Begins Tuesday, October 12 for 6 Sessions, 11 to 12:15 a.m.**

### Zoom

If you are called to hold racial justice matters close to your heart, consider joining the Dialogue for Change Study Group. We will read/review study material (written and video) ahead of our group get-together. Then, we will meet via zoom to pray and discuss/unpack the material with the support of one another. *If you'd like to participate or if you have questions, contact Linda*

at [lindajimerson@comcast.net](mailto:lindajimerson@comcast.net) or 925-984-

4611. *Study topics include:*

- When Affirmative Action was White
- Colonialism and the Invention of Race
- Colonialism through the Lens of Native People
- Critical Race Theory: What It Is and What It Isn't
- California's Not So Golden Past

## DIALOGUE FOR CHANGE

More Than a Conversation- An **Opportunity** to Learn & Act

***Registration Begins Sunday, November 7, 2021!***

## "Rest in the Storm"

**SRVUMC Women's Retreat 2022**

**February 4 Through 6**

**Villa Maria Del Mar, Santa Cruz, CA**

Led by our own **Pastor Mantu Joshi**! Based on the book of the same name by Kirk Byron Jones and centered on the scene where Jesus calls for calm in the storm (**Mark 4:35-41**), with a focus on self-care and sabbath. Feel free to bring your adult daughters or other young women. ***Note: There will be NO in-person registration this year. Look for details in the November Messenger and on the church website beginning November 1, 2021.***



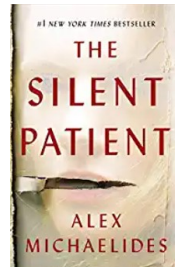
# Spiritual Growth

## Afternoon Book Group

Monday, October 18, 1 p.m.

Rm. 202 Wesley Center/Church Courtyard

*The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides, Jenny Swanson leads discussion.

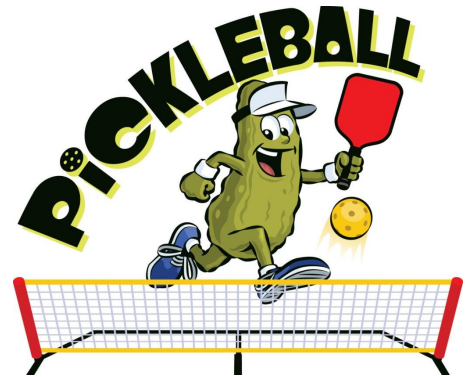


## Come Play Pickleball!

Sundays 3 to 5 p.m. or Wednesdays 7:30 to 9 p.m.

ARC

Pickleball is widely touted as "the fastest growing sport in America", and SRVUMC is very fortunate to have its own pickleball courts and group of people devoted to the sport. However, we need more players! We want more church members to enjoy the fellowship and opportunity for fun exercise! If you've never played, there are several good players eager to teach you how. So, don't hesitate to come try it out! **We wear masks. For information, call Debbie Koos at (925) 786-5173 or email her at [glkoos@comcast.com](mailto:glkoos@comcast.com).**



## Great Adventures

Our group plans to take one to two field trips a month to various places. Together, they will be fun for all ages. With the seemingly infinite possibilities in the Bay area, we will be busy for a really long time. During this pandemic, our trips are scheduled based on mandated opening rules. They will follow all Dr. Fauci recommendations, as well as our church and venue safety protocols. They should be loads of fun! **Contact Terry Bailey at [bai-leyzoobob@comcast.net](mailto:bai-leyzoobob@comcast.net) for more information about upcoming events.**



## Harvest Festival Craft Fair and Boutique

November 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wesley Center

Quilts and hand-stitched items, fisherman afghans, fused glass jewelry and décor, ornaments, mosaic fabric items, handmade caramels, and much more! Please wear mask and practice social distancing.

# Out Into the World

## How To Serve Our Afghan Brothers and Sisters

SRVUMC is aware of the needs of those fleeing Afghanistan. We are exploring what our entry point will be. If you have questions or suggestions, then please contact HollyAnn Melton, who is building a team to help our Afghan brothers and sisters. **Contact her at [hollyannmelton22@yahoo.com](mailto:hollyannmelton22@yahoo.com) or by cell, 408-582-3276.**

## Did You Know?

The East Bay is home for one of the largest Afghan populations in the US (Source: [KQED.org](http://KQED.org)). In September, Jewish Family and Community Services East Bay expected to help resettle more than 60 people fleeing Afghanistan (source: [The Mercury News online](http://TheMercuryNews.com)).

## Your CA-NV Conference Responds

The Conference Disaster Response Ministry operated six days in September at the Local Assistance Center in Placerville. Led by the Conference Early Response Team, we assisted evacuees with gift cards for immediate needs, emergency hygiene kits, wildfire recovery equipment and cleaning supplies.

We gave away about \$20,000 worth of gift cards, kits and supplies. The vast majority of this assistance was funded by the Conference Disaster Response Fund or donated by United Methodist Churches in the California-Nevada Conference. We also handed out gift cards, hygiene kits and wildfire buckets to the two local churches for ongoing support.

The most important part of our services is to be a ministry of presence—listening to evacuees as they share their story, express their fears and frustrations; and as survivors grieve their loss and ponder an uncertain future. **During this long-term recovery period, please contact Steve Elliott for more information about how you can help at [UMVIMCoordinator@calnevumc.org](mailto:UMVIMCoordinator@calnevumc.org). Click [here](#) to donate to the California-Nevada Disaster Response Fund.**



**Susan Hunn and Steve Elliott work the UMCOR desk for wildfire relief.**

# Out Into the World

## Habitat for Humanity Playhouse Build

**Sunday, October 9**  
**SRVUMC Parking Lot**



Join us to build two playhouses in partnership with Habitat for Humanity. Pick one of two shifts, 9 to 11:30 a.m. or noon to 2:30 p.m....or stay for the whole day! We need builders, artists, and positive attitudes! All materials and tools will be provided. We would love to see you there. *For questions contact Kate Steffy at [ksteffy123@gmail.com](mailto:ksteffy123@gmail.com) All COVID-19 protocols will be followed at this activity.*



*SRVUMC has a tradition of partnering with Habitat for Humanity in the annual Playhouse Build. These photos are from the 2017 date. Thanks to George Clarke for these photos.*

## **Rise Against Hunger** **November 14, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** **Wesley Center**

This annual event is an excellent mission for the whole family to do together! The Rise Against Hunger mission is to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable and creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources. The meals are used as a tool to change lives by promoting education, improving students' health and nutrition, addressing gender inequalities, stimulating economic growth and fighting child labor. This year's goal is 20, 088 meals! To pack this many meals, we need 75 to 80 volunteers, estimating that one person can package 250 meals in two hours. You can also contribute to this worthy organization with November's Communion offering. *Contact HollyAnn Melton at [hollyannmelton22@yahoo.com](mailto:hollyannmelton22@yahoo.com) for more info.*



# Communion

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

In 2020, the United Methodist Church collectively gave \$400,254 towards the ministries funded by the World Communion Sunday offering. This offering supports a diverse mix of national and international ethnic young adults to make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion Scholarships for graduate students from the US and other countries; the remainder assists Ethnic Scholarships for US and international undergraduates studying in the US and Ethnic In-Service Training. These funds are administered by the [General Boards' of Higher Education and Ministry](#) and [Global Ministries](#).

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.

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



## Youth Ministry

- **In-person Youth Group.** Each month, every second Sunday at SRVUMC (**October 11**) and fourth Sunday at St. Timothy's (**October 25**), our youth will gather at 4 to 5:30 p.m. (high school) and 5 to 6 p.m. (middle school) with dinner in between. *St. Timothy's Episcopal Church is located at 1550 Diablo Rd, Danville, CA 94526.*
- **Online Youth Group** (Sunday at 7 p.m.)
- **Online Bible Study** (Wednesday at 7 p.m.)
- **Online Parent Support Group** (Tuesday at 8 p.m.)

Contact Robbie Frederiksen at [robbie@cumcstockton.org](mailto:robbie@cumcstockton.org) for Zoom information regarding any of the online meetings.

# Family Ministry

## Calendar

**Trunk or Treat! Drive-Through! Saturday, October 30 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the ARC parking lot.** The tradition will go on and we need you! Families drive by decorated cars. All with social distancing, masks, and lots of precautions! Or, you decorate a car and (safely) hand out treats and surprises that we will provide.

One of 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](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org).*

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

**Great outreach opportunity for families! Building playhouses for Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, October 9.** Pick one of two shifts (9 to 11:30 a.m. or noon to 2:30 p.m.) or stay for the whole day!



**Sign up link:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F44ADAE2FA57-srvumc>, See Page 6 of this newsletter for more information.



*Did you miss COVID-friendly bingo in the courtyard last month? Left: Tom Roy calls while wearing his mask. Above: Marilyn and George Clarke concentrate on their cards with social distancing and a gentle breeze in this safe, outdoor setting. Tom goes fast, so you better not be messing with your phone!*

# Family Ministry

## Sunday School Your Way

Join us for in-person Sunday school! Sundays, 9 a.m. No need to register! TK through second grade will meet in small Wesley Hall. Third through fifth grades will meet in large Wesley Hall. Tot Spot will depend on staffing availability.

Online Sunday School meets at 10:15 a.m. via zoom. Email Laura at [lroy@srvumc.org](mailto:lroy@srvumc.org) for Zoom meeting ID and passcode.

## Custom Creations!

*Individuality is discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference.*

### Week One

Image of God: Genesis 1:26-28

*You were made in God's image.*

### Week Two

Matthew: Matthew 9:9-13

*Knowing Jesus changes how you see yourself.*

### Week Three

Lydia: Acts 16:13-15

*Use your gifts to help others.*

### Week Four

Timothy: 1 Timothy 4:12

*You can make a difference right now.*

### Week Five

One Body but Many Parts: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

*We can use our gifts together to make a greater difference.*

**"How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." Psalm 139:14, NIrV**



**Mark your calendars! COVID-friendly Trunk-or-Treat returns for October 30, 2021, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the SRVUMC parking lot!**

# Preschool

## Apple Pie Week October 11 Through 15

This month, we are transitioning our annual Apple Pie Night into a COVID-friendly Apple Pie Week. The children will spend a week learning all about apples. In the past, the families have joined us for an Apple Pie Night. At this event, the families, staff and children each shared a warm slice of pie, made with love by the students, as a culmination of all they had learned. In an effort to keep all of our students, staff and families safe, the children will still spend the week exploring apples. Instead of having a big event, each student will make a mini-sized apple pie to bake and enjoy at home with their families. This is just another perfect example of how adaptable our wonderful teachers and families are, but we do hope that by next year we are able to host a celebration with our families on campus!



***Save room for COVID-friendly plans this year!***

## Halloween

October also means the celebration of Halloween! Our students love to show off their costumes. On the few mornings leading up to Halloween, you can find us parading around campus to do just that. We sure love all the excitement and hope you are enjoying cooler weather and a new season just as much as we are!

### Volunteer Substitute Teachers for Preschool Wanted

We are looking for individuals with past teaching experience who might want to spend some time in the classroom for a day or two here and there. There is no formal commitment: Volunteering is based on availability on the day needed. Dates that Katelyn Self knows in advance will be shared to see if anyone is available (most cases). Some dates may pop up when teachers are out unexpectedly.

If you meet the requirements for fingerprinting, vaccination status and TB testing, then you will be added to a substitute list. **Contact Katelyn Self, Preschool Director, at [kself@srvumc.org](mailto:kself@srvumc.org).**

#### Volunteer Substitute Requirements:

- *Fingerprint clearance through Livescan.* If you have already been Livescan fingerprinted, then you can be looked up in the system and added to our license. If you are not sure, then provide your driver's license/ID number to Katelyn so she can check.
- *Full vaccination (COVID-19).*
- *Recent (within twelve months) negative TB test and medical clearance form on file.* Katelyn can send this form to anyone interested.

# Celebrations

## Birthdays

1 Jeff Doyle	Lisa Laird	18 Ida Dandridge
2 Bruce Fitch	Barbara Schneider	Mikala Choy
Ariyana Vojdani	8 William Barton	Priscilla Wolfram
Laurel Portman	Doug Domergue	19 Walt Torgersen
Sam Hawk	Thomas Valdriz	20 Lauren Nakaso
Kim Maier	9 Teresa Marohn	21 Sharleen Keen
3 Jim Johnson	Darrellyn Orr	22 Nancy Campbell
Heather Morgan	Ann Radick	Jana Vojdani
Sarah Stroin	10 Jim Rossini	Kelly Milligan
4 Lance Schlichter	Bob Sada	23 Bruce Benzler
5 Colby Milligan	Pam Uitti	24 Lauren Nakaso
Phillip Luecht	11 Robbie Barton	Karen Watson
6 Wendy Cooper	12 Eric Perry	25 Emily Doran
Gavin Isbell	Madeleine Sepull	Bob Schleicher
Jack Schramm	14 Danni Sherman	26 Rochelle Hoff
Heather Jackson	Melissa Ward	28 Bill Foulds
Kyle Glover	Larry Watson	29 Allie Metcalf
Dylan DeWalt	15 John Brusher	Bob Millinich
Millie Sherman	16 Liz Bayat	Dale Stevenson
7 Lydia Fenoglio	17 Bill Lettis	31 Ed Scott

## Anniversaries

6 Susan & Rick Doran	21 Beth McClelland & Joseph Voelker
9 Liz & Skip George	22 HollyAnn Melton & Ted Nguyen
9 Jackie & Rudy Ceragioli (62)	23 Joan & Lyn Arscott (56)
12 Cadi & Brian Stephenson	24 Kathleen & Nader Saghafi
13 Devon & Buck Drake	
14 Marti & Sketch Sketchley (54)	
17 Margo & Ron Cefalo	
17 Nancy & Epi Vazquez	
19 Sherrie & Don Weis	
20 Lynn & Joe Sanguedolce	

# Among Ourselves

## Health Concerns

Bob Brown

Mary Ellen Brown

Shana Carroll

Marilyn & Todd Christian

Linda Green

Sandra Greenwood

Laura Sanchez

Karen Scalzi

## Continued Prayers For

All those who live with long-term illness, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families, Alina Begley (Kraus), Bob De Chene, Connie Erickson, Felicia Hillard, Joan Lee, Dean McWilliams, Ann Schroeder

## Memorial Plans

The family of **Evelyn Evans** has decided to wait until spring 2022 for her memorial service, originally planned for October 2021.

Thank you, thank you, for all the notes, calls, cards, meals, prayers, and support you gave to us as we dealt with COVID. Times like these and your support make us appreciate our wonderful church family.

God bless you,

**Linda and John Green**

## SRVUMC

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Laura Roy (ext. 106)

### Interim Youth Director

Robbie Frederiksen

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