

The

Valley Messenger

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

Holding SRVUMC in My Heart

Dear San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church,

You are in my prayers as you welcome Pastor Sam Yun as your lead pastor on July 1. I'm so grateful for his appointment, as he is a gifted preacher, experienced pastor, and an inspired leader.

One of my favorite prayers draws on Meister Eckhart's insight: If the only prayer you ever say is "thank you", it is enough.

Thank you, San Ramon Valley UMC community, for being the place where I discovered my call to ministry over twenty years ago. This is the place where I—and, later, our two young children—had our baptisms. This is the community where I participated in an amazing women's faith sharing group, became involved in Stephen Ministry, and had the opportunities to lead services and small groups. All these enriched me beyond measure.

Thank you for all we have shared in the last five years after I was appointed to serve here as your lead pastor. Together, we re-established the Stephen Ministry program; became a Reconciling Church; figured out how to be a church in a pandemic; and expanded our online ministry. Thank you to all of you for your commitment to this faith community. While it is always a bit dicey to thank specific people, I'm going to take a chance. Please know when you come to mind, I am grateful for you.

A shout out of thanks to our office staff—Sol, Patsy, Priya, Michelle and Susan—for the skill, commitment, vision and joy you bring to our work together. The way you support each other makes for a wonderful office environment. Thank you to my colleagues in ministry, Laura Roy and Andrew Davis—may you always know your ministry is a blessing. Thank you to Boyd

June 2023

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Next Issue: July 2023

Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to Lisa Jancarik at media@srvumc.org by **June 15, 2023.**

Reflections

From Page 1

Hasik for all the ways you take care of our campus and community. Jeff Lang, is there anything you can't figure out or do? Thank you for always giving your all. Sam Hawk and Lisa Jancarik—thank you for the wholehearted way you plan for and prepare for worship. I've loved working alongside you. Sarah Stribling! You are a blessing as you lead the online campus and social media ministries. Judy Slinger and Jane Roath—thank you for the kind and compassionate way you support families for memorial services and weddings. Al Banish, Marla Nakaso and Lisa Jancarik, thank you for sharing leadership and vision for Stephen Ministry program.

Nadia. I don't know how to worship without you, and I am so grateful we got to work together. What a gift you are to our community!

To all those who lead ministries and committees—Gary Swanson (trustees), Jeff Stroin (finance), Kal Peters (missions), Harry Knapp (endowment), Bill Fulcher (Staff Parish Relations Committee), Rebecca Ten Elshof (church council), Brad Stribling (lay leader extraordinaire), Ann Radick (ushers/greeters). You all will be such a support to Pastor Sam. Thank you!

As you prepare to welcome Pastor Sam, please make sure you add your picture to the online directory. I cannot wait for him to get to know you. Let's help him do just that.

Pastor Sam Yun begins his ministry at SRVUMC on July 1. I've been so grateful to serve as one of your pastors and will miss you! To fully support Pastor Sam, I will not be involved at SRVUMC. To paraphrase a favorite hymn, I will always hold the people of SRVUMC in my heart!

All my love,
Pastor Kim



*Above: Pastor Kim
Risedorph; Below:
Pastor Sam Yun*

June Communion Moves to June 11!

Communion Sunday will be observed June 11 to accommodate all the excitement of the coming weeks. Mark your calendars!

June 4: Music Sunday

June 11: Communion; Andrew's last Sunday

June 18: Father's Day; Kim's last Sunday leading worship

June 25: Dan Sturdivant preaches

July 2: Pastor Sam Yun leads worship with us for the first time, special time of fellowship follows

Reflections

A Good Goodbye

As Trevor and I say goodbye to the community of San Ramon Valley UMC this month, we are grateful for this past year with all of you. We have enjoyed working with the youth ministry, playing pickleball, teaching Sunday School, and engaging in fellowship with all of you. We look forward to celebrating our time together on June 11 in worship and after worship.

In The United Methodist Church, pastors are sent and assigned to each church by the bishop and cabinet, which means that our relationship to each other will change after July 1. Taking personal leave beginning July 1 was my decision after significant prayer and discernment. However, the protocols for pastors leaving an appointment apply. This means that come July 1, I will no longer be appointed as a pastor at SRVUMC: I will not be available for preaching, pastoral care, counseling, weddings, funerals, or any pastoral role at SRVUMC unless it is at Pastor Sam Yun's invitation.

I have been fortunate to know P. Sam over the last twelve years through our conference connections and our connections with Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. SRVUMC is in very good hands, and I will be cheering you on from the sideline. Know that you will be in my prayers as we also wish Pastor Kim well in her retirement.

Again, Trevor and I are both grateful for the love you have shown us this past year, and we welcome your prayers as we begin our new life together and head off for new adventures.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Andrew

Farewell to Pastor Andrew Sendoff

June 11, After Worship

Church Courtyard

Pastor Andrew will be moving on to new adventures at the end of June. There will be an open mic, cake, beverages, and gift-giving. If you haven't already, please sign the book for Pastor Andrew with your well-wishes and parting thoughts in the Narthex before church, and either in the courtyard or Wesley Center during fellowship. An additional gift will be given to Andrew. Donations toward Andrew's gift can be made to the church by a check made out to SRVUMC with Pastor Andrew's name in the memo line. *If you wish to be formally added to the speaker list, contact Terry Bailey at baileyzoobob@comcast.net.*



Reflections

Our Church History, The Very Beginning (1958 to 1961)

By Carole Johnson

A March 2007 *Valley Messenger* article was written as a year-long preparation for the celebration of our Alamo/San Ramon Valley founding as a church. That article described the original campus plan, and its details offer a sense of how the church campus has changed over the decades.

The first worship service in the new building was on January 5, 1958. That first unit, in the northwest corner of present complex, consisted of a chapel and social hall (our present Justice Building Fireside Room, kitchen and storage areas), basement, minister's office, church office, kitchen, three classrooms (now church offices and conference room), and two restrooms. The church office is now a library, along with a former hallway. The kitchen is now the open breezeway and senior pastor's office.

The new church community grew rapidly, and the second unit was built the summer of 1958 with a multipurpose room (now Lamm Hall), three classrooms (now Calvin, Wycliffe Rooms and two storage areas) and two restrooms. The Sanctuary was dedicated in 1961.

Alamo Today & Danville Today News published ["Valley Vignette: Alamo Grammar Schools Over the Years"](#) by Beverly Lane in March 2023. Lane tells us: "From 1958-59 Alamo School had so many students that rooms were rented at the Methodist Church to accommodate the growth." Our own San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church was that church. Those were the Calvin and Wycliffe Rooms, now used by our Methodist Preschool. Alice Reynolds, an early church member, was the teacher, and daughter Nancy Reynolds was one of the students. The San Ramon Valley Unified School District was founded in 1964 and now has 36 school sites.

In the Pew: Carole Johnson

Carole Johnson is an encyclopedia of knowledge about church history. If you are new here and have a chance to say hello, then definitely introduce yourself. Five minutes talking to Carole means learning something about SRVUMC for at least four of them...although no one talks with Carole for just five minutes. She has written some other tidbits of church history for the newsletter over the years, too, so there is more where the above article came from. Carole Johnson, Jerry Ricker, and John Green have helped me check the Celebrations page for years, too—help I begged from them years ago when I was too new to know most of our congregation.

On a personal note, Carole Johnson and her husband, Don, were among the first people to welcome me to San Ramon Valley UMC and make me feel like I could fit in here. Years later, people like Carole who made SRVUMC a soft place to land for me are still special to me.

—Editor



Announcements

Sign Up to Volunteer Through Church Center Online!

Registrations are now available! You can now [sign up online](#) to participate in an event/opportunity to serve! Volunteer at the food bank, help out in the A/V loft, go to a baseball game, and more! New opportunities are regularly offered, so check back often.

You can also:

- Check out our new [class on spiritual practices](#) available now on Church Center! Learn a new spiritual practice every week!
- Check out [Church Center Tutorials](#) and learn how to set up a recurring donation and more
- Access the [Online Church Directory](#) using your phone or your email to access your account.



Did You Know? Church Center Has a Free App

Need a more convenient way to stay connected to your church community? Look no further than your smartphone and/or tablet! You can now access Church Center via a free mobile app. Once you download the app and sign in, you can access the online church directory, give to the church, sign up for upcoming church events, keep track of your upcoming church activities (opportunities to serve, small groups) and so much more! Download the app today, and stay connected with the life of SRVUMC! Tap [here](#) to download the app to your iPhone/iPad. Tap [here](#) to download to your Android. Instructions have been created by our own Michelle Cooke and Sarah Stribling. For their help installing this application, click [here](#).

Two Great Events You Can Sign Up for Through Church Center Online

Giants Baseball: June 24, \$73—We purchased 16 tickets, 10 tickets have been reserved, don't wait too long, and miss this event! *See Jerry Ricker during coffee hour, or mail checks to 183 Golden Ridge Road, Alamo, 94507*

White Pony Food Bank—Youth have reserved two dates in June 19, 9 a.m. to 11 am and Wednesday June 21, 1 to 3 p.m. Why not join up with them? Only a couple of spots are left. Other dates are available, so make this a summer family event! *Contact Jerry Ricker at 925-382-2862.*

Psst...Jerry sent me some other big plans, too. Check out Page 9 to see what the Men's Faith Sharing Group has cooking for the June Lunch With Friends! —Editor



Announcements

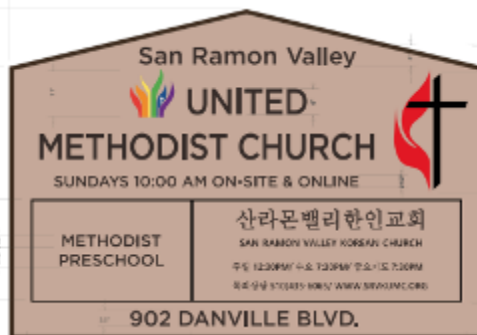
New Monument Signs

The Trustees are pleased to report that we're getting new signs for the front of the church! This project started in November 2022, when Johnny and Donna Johnston's daughter and son-in-law, Cecily and Vic Karpenko, made a very significant financial commitment to replace our old, out-of-date signs with fresh, welcoming ones. We received additional funding from the church council to make this possible. Construction starts May 22. We expect it will take one to two weeks.

The entire board of trustees supported the project with extra involvement from Anita Weir-Ball. Additional special thanks to Rob Rudow, who joined our sign team as a consultant. Rob spent several years as owner and manager of a major sign products company. Many thanks to Bob Baker, who helped us secure approval from the county.

Our new monument signs do a much better job of communicating that we are a Reconciling Church that welcomes all. When completed, they will replace our two old monument signs, the temporary Korean church sign and the preschool sign. Additional temporary banner frames are being fabricated to support two key announcements at a time, such as Vacation Bible School and Trunk or Treat.

—Gary Swanson, Board of Trustees



Dr. Jeff Rideout Testifies Before the Senate Committee on Finance



May is Mental Health Month. During this time, stakeholders of all kinds—healthcare networks, providers and patients—consider topics falling under this umbrella. The Senate Committee on Finance invited Jeff Rideout and other experts to speak in a May 3 hearing about the accuracy of provider directories healthcare networks make available to patients. You can watch his opening statement [here](#).

Announcements



San Francisco Episcopal Area

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Dear Friends and Members of California-Nevada Conference,

Greetings from Chicago. I'm writing to you having gathered for the first in-person Council of Bishops since 2019.

During this time, an update in relation to Bishop Minerva Carcaño of the San Francisco Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church was made available. I want to make you aware of this latest development.

The Committee on Investigation of the Western Jurisdiction has completed its work regarding complaints related to Bishop Carcaño. They have identified five charges per Paragraph 2702.1, and have assigned a bill of charges for trial. As the process moves ahead, her suspension from episcopal responsibilities will remain in effect. I encourage you to read [the official full statement on our website](#).

In recent days and weeks, many open letters have been circulated, expressing a diversity of perspectives and feelings about the process. This announcement will also elicit a diversity of perspectives and feelings that can result in further division and hurt. I would encourage all of us to pull together as the body of Christ in the California-Nevada Annual Conference. If you can, talk to each other, pray for each other (especially those whose understanding and perspective is different from yours), and love one another (the commandment that Jesus gave us to love was not just for those who see things our way).

Let me say that it has been my honor to serve as your interim bishop. The Western Jurisdiction College of Bishops has asked me to continue in this role until a final resolution (just resolution or trial) has been reached. This is not a task I take lightly. I promise to continue to prayerfully and faithfully serve the California-Nevada Conference during this time.

As we navigate this difficult season, draw strength in knowing that the United Methodist community is praying for you. Likewise, your continued prayers are appreciated for all involved including the California-Nevada Annual Conference and Western Jurisdiction members, the complainants and Bishop Carcaño. I'll be in touch as updates are available. For now, please know that I'm praying for and with you.

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Spiritual Growth

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Let me leave you with Paul's benediction to the church in Rome:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13, NRSVUE)

Sincerely,

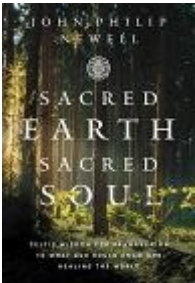


Bishop Sally Dyck, Interim Bishop of the California-Nevada Annual Conference

New Small Group Forming: Study Newell's *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul*

Wednesdays, Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Zoom



In this experiential online book study, discover what makes the Celtic branch of Christianity unique and life-affirming. We will be studying John Philip Newell's *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul* available [here](#). By examining the lives of several ancient and modern exemplars of this tradition, participants are invited to reawaken to the sacred that flows within us and in all of creation. This six-week conversation will have started May 31, but there are plenty of Wednesdays to join in! **Contact Sarah Stribling with your questions or click [here](#) to sign up.**

Book Club Summer Plans

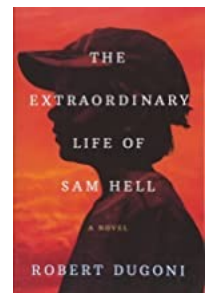
Monthly, 1 p.m.

Church Library

June 19—*The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni. A child born with red eyes who is teased and bullied, but then makes a friend. ***Gail Smith leads the discussion.***

July 17—*The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict. Historical fiction about a woman who is J.P.Morgan's librarian. Belle has many obstacles to overcome as she researches rare books for the collections. ***Anita Bell will lead our discussion.***

August 21—*Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg. Memoir of Ruth Bader Ginsburg and her friends. Very pertinent to the current events involving the Supreme Court and the court's ethics.



Spiritual Growth

Roush Kitchen Update

1. The Roush Kitchen passed a county **drop-in** inspection—during the April Lunch With Friends event!
2. Too many non-compostable plastic spoons, knives and forks! Please, do not buy more of these products when the current supply is gone. They will likely be seen again on the beaches, lakes and landfills one hundred years from now. We will move to compostable products. *If you need flatware wrapped in napkins, then ask me, and I'll prep them from the compostable inventory.*
3. Compostables include all coffee cups, clear juice cups and compostable flatware. These articles may be disposed of in the green bins, as can plain paper plates, napkins and paper food containers. *In other words, all coffee hour products.*
4. Thanks to everyone who adds supply needs to the sheet on bulletin board. *Remember to shop in the storeroom at end of kitchen for extras first.*
5. The stove should be repaired in near future, so pilot lights will work properly.
6. I completed my all-day class and exam last week to be recertified as food manager per county requirements.



It's wonderful to see the magic coming from this kitchen to bring the community together!

Thank you everyone,

Anita Weir-Ball, Kitchen Manager, 925-997-9937

Lunch With Friends June 20, Noon to 2 p.m. Wesley Center



Our Men's Faith Sharing Group are guest chefs for June! They will prepare Bob Baker's Award-Winning Meatloaf, creamy au gratin potatoes, delicious side salad and Jerry Ricker's Mississippi mud pie for dessert, all lovingly prepared and served by the Men's Faith Sharing Group. Remember, kids, Lunch With Friends is always the third Tuesday of the month. Nancy Benvenuto returns for the July 25 Lunch With Friends for a Mexican Fiesta! **Contact Jerry Ricker at 925-382-2862 with questions.**

Spiritual Growth



*Above: The labyrinth provides a tranquil place to address a challenge, meditate, pray and find peace and serenity. Internationally known labyrinth artist Marty Kermeen, from *Labyrinths in Stone*, designed the handcrafted labyrinth we've come to know.*

To Walk the Walk, Ten Years Later

Still Finding Peace at the Labyrinth Dedicated to Will Schramm

Labyrinths have been constructed around the world in all cultures, and have long been used as tools for meditation, centering, and healing. Some see the labyrinth as a metaphor for life's journey. Some people walk with a question on their mind. Some walk in celebration of a life event. Others walk just to slow down and take time out from a busy life. Some come to find strength to take the next step. Many come during times of grief and loss. Instead of worrying about past and future, you may find yourself immersed in the peaceful present.

The labyrinth dedicated to Will Schramm sits behind the Magee House in a quiet and peaceful corner of Hap Magee Park. An oak tree canopy provides the labyrinth with dappled shade, and the creek nearby brings the calming sounds of water. The idea for this labyrinth began after the death of 24-year-old Will Schramm. Shortly before his death in an automobile accident, Will had begun walking a labyrinth and shared this ancient practice with his friends. This labyrinth is a gift from the family and friends of Will Schramm and the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church.

The Beginning

The labyrinth is the result of two years of preparation, presentations to and approvals from the Danville Parks and Leisure Commission, the Danville Arts Commission, the Alamo Municipal Advisory Council (MAC), The San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church Administrative Board and the Danville Town Council. Substantial funds had been received from memorial gifts. Under the direction of the Hap Magee Labyrinth Committee, a series of fundraisers were held during July and August of 2014: the yoga on the labyrinth class, the candlelight labyrinth walk, and the Will Schramm Memorial Golf Tournament and Auction.

In late January 2014, the site was excavated and a concrete ring was poured. Base rock was installed

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Spiritual Growth

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within the concrete ring. On Sunday, February 8, 2015, the groundbreaking ceremony was held. As part of this ceremony, participants were invited to write a special message, prayer or name of a loved one on a river rock. These rocks were placed in the base and became a part of the labyrinth's foundation.

The labyrinth officially opened on May 31, 2015, with a dedication and opening ceremony as family, friends, church members and the community gathered around the labyrinth. The ceremony opened with words from Tom and Dory Schramm. Pastor Ron Dunn led everyone in a responsive reading.

Rev. Kathi McShane invited guests to write—on special dissolving paper—a blessing, a hope, or a prayer for the well-being of those who walk the stones of the labyrinth. These paper strips were placed in a bowl of water. The messages written on the paper dissolved into the water along with the paper. The water and these symbolic blessings were poured onto the center rosette of the labyrinth. Read more about the [Dedication and Opening Ceremony](#).



Above: Dedicating the labyrinth at Hap Magee Park in 2015.

Walking the Labyrinth Today

The labyrinth is open during park hours, and you can find some time to introduce yourself to this ancient, meditative practice.

- There is no right or wrong way to walk a labyrinth. Use the labyrinth in any way that meets your needs while being respectful of others also walking.
- More than one person can walk the labyrinth at a time. Those going in will meet those coming out. Pass others, or allow others to pass you, simply by moving aside. Do what feels natural.
- The labyrinth is not a maze. There is only one path, so there are no tricks to it and no dead ends. It is not designed for you to get lost. If you lose your way in, you will end up back at the entrance. If you lose your way out, you will end up back at the center. Simply start over.
- When you reach the center, stay as long as you like. Then, return following the same path out of the center.
- Children enjoy the labyrinth. If others are walking, it's appreciated if parents supervise their young

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Spiritual Growth

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children so all may enjoy the meditative aspects of the walk.

- Labyrinth walks can be used to celebrate rites of passage, mark joyful or solemn occasions, or simply to find a moment of peace. Found in many cultures, the labyrinth is a meditative tool that invites each of us to turn our walking and wandering into pilgrimage.

You can watch a video about the [labyrinth's proposal](#) or read [Will's obituary](#) online. Read more about the labyrinth's construction in the July 2014 [Alamo Today](#) or [East Bay Times](#). Content here is adapted from the article appearing on the church website, www.srvumc.org and appears there in its original form.

Dialogue for Change Returns for a Summer Series

Sundays, 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Fireside Room and on Zoom

Dialogue for Change is an adult education class that began as education in antiracism and now continues with brave conversations about other controversial topics. We think about Christian responses to these divisive issues and maybe awaken ourselves to bias and injustice that we have not acknowledged. We will tackle three topics, spending two Sundays on each one. Hopefully, we will have a speaker for one class and a video and discussion for the second class of each topic. The three topics selected for this summer:

June 18 and 25	Banning books, parental rights
July 2	<i>Happy Independence Day—No Class!</i>
July 9 and 16	Gun violence, gun control
July 23	Immigration and security
July 30	<i>No Class!</i>
August 6	Immigration and security, continued

DIALOGUE FOR CHANGE

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

A community on a journey with God- mind, body, & soul.

For more information about Dialogue for Change discussions, contact Lucinda Huffaker.

Share Your Musical Talent This Summer

As our musical groups take a break for the summer, we are seeking special music during the summer months. At the time of writing of this article, available dates are June 18 and 25, July 9, 16, and 23, and August 13, 20, and 27. *If you are interested in singing a solo, duet, trio, or instrumental selection, contact Pastor Andrew at adavis@srvumc.org to sign up.*

Spiritual Growth



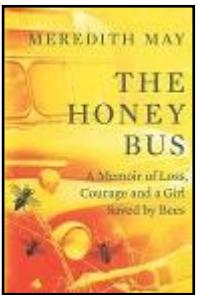
Between the Bookends



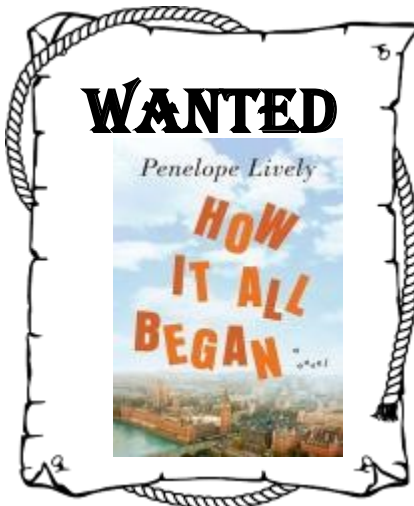
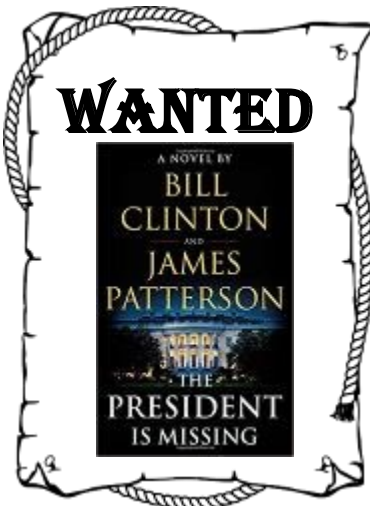
In March, women who contributed to the history of our country were honored. The library committee has included another woman, not from America, but whose influence helped women here.



Benedict, Marie. *Clementine*. This biography tells of the staunch support Clementine gave to her husband, Winston Churchill during the perilous time before the war and especially as the war began. She was not swayed by members of Parliament who thought that she should not be so verbal in the decisions affecting the war. When there was a dire need for gas masks, she designed a campaign enlisting housewives to make them with equal breaks for men and women. When more men needed for battle, she encouraged Winston to appeal to women to work in factories, farms, offices, etc. She herself would go atop buildings to watch where bombs were landing. She truly was a forerunner for all women's rights and opportunities in many areas. Other books by Marie Benedict which tell about the accomplishments of women are: *The Other Einstein*, *Carnegie's Maid*, and *The Only Woman in the Room*. Readers, you will find these on the library cart.



May, Meredith. *The Honey Bus*. Meredith May's life changed dramatically when her parents divorced at age five. She was relocated from the East Coast to Big Sur on the West Coast. Her mother suffered from depression so Meredith turned to her wonderful grandfather and his fascinating bee colonies. Both Grandpa and the bees gave new meaning and helpful guidance for a satisfying life, teaching her about family, community, loyalty and survival. A wonderful, uplifting story about one girls' triumph in beating adversity.



Have you seen these popular books? If you've brought home something from the book cart, then please look around. The reward for their return is the chance to talk about a great book with its next readers!

Out Into the World

Churches Helping Churches: SRVUMC Completes Pittsburg Parsonage Renovation

The Cal-Nev Conference has a tradition of providing mission teams to fellow churches that need help to complete repairs or maintenance. One such project, renovating the Pittsburg UMC parsonage, was just completed by our church, teamed with Asbury UMC in Livermore.

The current pastor, Adi Nabou, has been commuting from Santa Rosa to serve this church, an ugly commute on the best of days. She will now be able to live in the parsonage adjacent to the church. Our church and Asbury combined forces to fund and complete this work.

As Oneda Turner, a key leader at Pittsburg UMC, said “Your willingness to give your time, talents and financial resources to this project is a testament to the strength of our United Methodist connection and spirit of service that we embody as a Christian community.” *(See Page 15 for Oneda’s full letter.)*

This renovation included the repairs and updates to make the house functional—a new kitchen, new flooring, bathroom repairs, painting the entire interior and other improvements. The total project required about 1200 hours at a cost of about \$14,500. It was a rewarding mission experience!



Above: Roger Everett (Asbury), Top Right: Gordon Huffaker (SRVUMC), Bottom Right: Coleman Johnson (Asbury) and Gordon Huffaker (SRVUMC). Almost too busy to smile for the camera...but not quite! Photos provided by Steve Elliott.

Thank You

Thank You From Pittsburg UMC for Parsonage Renovations

Dear UMVIM Team Members—

Let us take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the incredible work you have done renovating our church parsonage. Your dedication and hard work have truly transformed the space into a beautiful and welcoming home for our pastor.

Your willingness to give your time, talents and financial resources to this project is a testament to the strength of our United Methodist connection and spirit of service that we embody as a Christian community. You have helped us create a space that will not only serve as a comfortable home for the pastor and her family but also a space that will foster fellowship and connection for our congregation. From painting walls and laying new floors to installing fixtures and new appliances, your attention to detail and commitment to excellence is evident in every aspect of the renovations. Not to mention your continued work on the exterior of the property. Praise the Lord! Yes, we are truly blessed to have such a dedicated group of volunteers who are willing to give so generously of their time and energy.

Please know that your efforts have not gone unnoticed or unappreciated by our congregation, we are fully aware of your awesomeness. Your hard work will have a lasting impact on our church community for years to come.

Grace and peace be with you all.

Oneda [Turner]

On Behalf of the Pittsburg UMC

Right: The completely renovated kitchen in the Pittsburg parsonage. See Page 14 for more about this project that eases the commute for the pastor serving this church community.



Thank You

Thank You From SHELTER, Inc.

Dear Pastor Risedorph:

Thank you for being a vital part of the SHELTER, Inc. community and for choosing to partner with us in making a difference for families and individuals in need. Your generous donation of \$1,600.00 was received on April 17, 2023. Thanks to your generosity, SHELTER, Inc. is delivering programs and services that prevent homelessness for low-income and disadvantaged families and individuals. Here is an example of a family served by the generosity of our community.

Dena is a 45-year-old woman with a six-year-old son who left an abusive relationship and became homeless. She struggled with anxiety and PTSD, developed a substance abuse problem, and lived with her son in multiple shelters. She was determined to find a better path for both of them. Her third shelter was SHELTER, Inc.'s Mountain View Family Shelter, and in partnership with us, she began to turn her life around. Her case manager worked with her to set goals and develop a plan, guiding her to a drug recovery program so she could become clean. She worked with her son on his schoolwork and returned to school herself. They began to attend church and completed paperwork to move into an apartment. They are looking forward to saying goodbye to shelters and moving into their own place with the help of SHELTER, Inc. and our generous donors.

Thank you for caring for our community, and for making it possible for us to prevent and end homelessness, one family at a time. We are blessed by your support.

Most sincerely,

Julie Clemens

Director of Development



Shout Out to Our Volunteers for Spring Projects



Thank you to LIFT, shown here sorting donations of men's clothing. For more information about joining these active volunteers, contact Shannon Dever. Photos by Wendy Cooper. Send media@srvumc.org photos of your small group in action so we can appreciate you, too!

Communion

June Communion Moves to June 11!

Communion Sunday will be observed June 11 to accommodate all the excitement of the coming weeks. Mark your calendars:

June 4: Music Sunday

June 11: Communion; Andrew's last Sunday

June 18: Father's Day; Kim's last Sunday leading worship

June 25: Dan Sturdivant preaches

July 2: Pastor Sam Yun leads worship with us for the first time, special time of fellowship follows

June Communion Offering: Helping Disaster Survivors

Our June Communion Offering funds survivor assistance from the recent floods in the Central Valley. The Cal-Nev Conference has responded to five flooding disasters in 2023. The unprecedented rains of the first part of the year caused widespread flooding.

The Pajaro River levee break caused by winter storms flooded the nearby farmworker community. Disasters like these destroy homes, businesses and possessions, but they also contaminate water needed for drinking and hygiene. According to Bob Lee, the response team leader, one home had nearly seven feet of water inundating it. Early response teams from the Cal-Nev Conference were assisting the people adjacent to the Pajaro River by March, offering nearly 400 hours of volunteer time gutting destroyed residences and \$15,000 in immediate aid. The Disaster Response Ministry assists with other regional disasters, like wildfires and earthquakes.

Bob Lee, from Los Altos UMC, will lead weekend repair teams on these dates: June 22 to 25, July 20 to 23, July 27 to 30, August 10 to 13, August 24 to 27, September 7 to 10 and September 21 to 24. There is work available for everyone. Each weekend team will be no more than six participants. . However, anyone can give financial resources to support disaster survivors as they face the heart-breaking tasks ahead of them. **Contact Bob at RLEE@carmlee.net for more information.**



Left: Aerial view of the Pajaro flooding. Right: Response Team Leader Bob Lee mucks out a flooded home nearby. You can always read more about ongoing disaster relief efforts [here](#).

Youthful Energy

Enroll in the Enchanted Forest This Month!

Our school year is quickly coming to a close; in fact, I overheard a grandmother say, “The year is grinding to an abrupt halt!” Her words ring true for us. We are fortunate to have so many wonderful memories to cherish as our students progress to their next step. It is always bittersweet to say farewell to our beloved children and wish them well in their next class. We will miss them, but we know they are ready for their upcoming challenges and experiences. As we look forward to a new group of students in the fall, we hold on to the promise that comes with fresh new faces. There will be new memories to make, new challenges to meet, and many more joyful experiences to encounter. So, while we are sad, we are also optimistic for what lies ahead.

Our United Methodist Preschool is offering three exciting weeks of Summer School from June 6 through 9, 13 through 16, and 20 through 23. Our theme is “Enchanted Forest”. We will focus on forest creatures and dragons, magical potions, fairies, princesses and knights! There will be plenty of fairy dust, dazzling flowers and mystical creatures to explore. Contact the preschool office to enroll your three-, four- or five-year-old today!



Youth Mission Service Days

During part of the week of June 19, our youth will be engaging in a week of service by engaging in mission-service activities around the area addressing hunger and food supply. Among the projects our youth will be involved in, we will be

- serving at White Pony Express Food Bank in Pleasant Hill
- volunteering at Garden of Grace at Asbury UMC in Livermore
- doing a cleanup on the Iron Horse Trail near the church campus

We are grateful to the generosity of our congregation for their financial support at our fundraisers this past spring, and the raised funds will be applied to all activities during the week and towards youth mission service activities in the coming year. **Save the dates and see Pastor Andrew at adavis@srvumc.org or Justin Byers at jbyers@srvumc.org for more information or to participate.**

Family Ministry

Calendar

Join us for Vacation Bible School! Hero Hotline, July 24 to 28, ages three years (potty trained) to grade five. We will invite children to the Hero Hotline Headquarters where everyone's gifts are valued, and every hero has a role to play! Invite your neighbors, friends and family to vacation Bible school right here at SRVUMC. *We've added more fun! A music station! We will go half an hour longer—9 a.m. to noon—no extra charge!* \$55 per child. Discount to \$50 per child for family of three or more children. For \$5 more, you'll also get a take-home music download card. **Contact Laura Roy at lroy@srvumc.org for more. Register Here: <https://www.myvbs.org/srvumc/>**

Volunteer With Another Family at White Pony Food Bank. We are looking to create new groups to sort food. Help feed others while you find fellowship and have fun! Volunteer slots still available. 9 to 11 a.m. daily including weekends or 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. **Contact Jerry Ricker at 925-382-2862 for more information.**

Sunday School Classes Begin at 10 a.m.

Tot Spot for infants to age four temporarily in Wesley 102

TK to grade 2—Upstairs above preschool in Otterbein room (Laura Roy leads)

Grades 3 through 5—Upstairs in Wesley 203 (Tom Roy leads)

Ready, Set, Move: Follow Jesus Here, There, and Everywhere!

Week One

Paul Becomes a Believer: Acts 9:1-9

Knowing Jesus changes how you see things.

Week Two

Ananias Helps Paul: Acts 9:10-31

God can help you face your fears.

Week Three

Peter Goes to the House of Cornelius: Acts 10

God can change the way you see others.

Week Four

An Angel Helps Peter Escape from Prison

Acts 12:1-19: God is with you even when you feel stuck.

“Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.” —Hebrews 11:1, NIV

Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Marty Osborn | 17 Kaylee Bain |
| 2 Victor Hymes | Nancy Banisch |
| Quinn McDaniel | Jo Anne Erickson |
| Jane VanderWerf | 18 Erin Lowther |
| 4 Nick Brown | 19 Sharon Greene |
| Emily Colman | 20 Kim Sherman-Porteous |
| Josie Ward | 21 Mary Ellen Brown |
| 5 Nader Saghafi | Beth McClelland |
| Genevieve DeWalt | Mark Schramm |
| 6 Dana Jancarik | 22 Justin Koos |
| ClaudeC Johannessen | Matthew Ward |
| John Stienstra | 23 Lee Rust |
| 8 Linn Coombs | Connor Sandoval |
| Marilyn McCurdy | 24 Amy Parnes |
| Steve Newburn | 25 Cindy Leonard |
| 9 Susie Barton | 26 Jaden Andres |
| Wolf Meier | Dan Saghafi |
| 11 Jeff Lang | 27 Kira Rose Grant |
| 12 Steve Elliott | Tom Mullican |
| 13 Nadia Blank-Koliha | 29 Justin Byers |
| 14 Holli McWilliams | Jess Erickson |
| Brian Steffy | Jourdan Krakoff |
| 15 Dylan Christensen | 30 Sara Rossini |
| 16 Elyse Rigolfi | Jerry Slater |
| Nancy Mills | Liz Mintzer |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4 Norma Jean & Jim Bunker | 16 Teresa & Steve Marohn |
| 5 Deb & Phil Bandy | Pam & Brian Utti |
| Ellen & James Kocins | 17 Karen & Tony Stepper (56) |
| 6 Carrie & Jeff Doyle | 18 Glenda & Wai Chang |
| Cindy & Rob Rudow | 19 Linn & Dave Coombs (56) |
| 9 Victoria & Greg Longstreet | 24 Mary Ellen & Robert Brown (61) |
| 10 Kim Risedorph & Steve Elliott | Marla & Bob Schleicher |
| Marti & Robert Starnes | 26 Rosanne & Michael Ogles (58) |
| 12 Sandy & Bill Gsand (58) | Jane & Steve Roath (58) |
| Joanne & Harry Knapp | 27 Liz & Don Field |
| 14 Debbie & Mike Kelly | Joan & David Pierce |
| 15 Linda Ashcraft & Richard Hudak | |
| Marilyn & Julien Hansen (66) | |

Among Ourselves

Health Concerns

Sharon (Susan Dowling's mother)

Bob Brown

Linn Coombs

Kay Jones

Andy (Susan Madden's husband)

Judith (Debbie Byers' mother)

Marti Sketchley

Barb McWilliams

Continued Prayers For

All those who live with long-term illness, those recovering from COVID-19, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families, Joan Lee, Ann Schroeder.

Our Christian Sympathy

Claudia Artiga on the recent death of her brother-in-law, Isaac.

SRVUMC

902 Danville Blvd • Alamo, CA 94507

Office Hours: 9 a.m.-12, 1-4:30 p.m.

Phone (925) 837-5243 • Fax (925) 837-7263 • www.srvumc.org

Ministers EVERYONE • Lead Pastor Kim Risedorph (ext. 107) • Associate Pastor Andrew Davis (ext. 108)

Director of Family Ministries

Laura Roy (ext. 106)

Preschool Director

Christine Pezza (ext. 113)

Office/HR Manager

Soledad Cuenco (ext 104)

Accountant

Pritya Gupta

Accounts Receivable Clerk

Susan Madden

Office Administrator

Patsy Kyles

Music Director

Rosalind Neisinger

Organist

Nadia Blank-Koliha

Messenger Editor

Lisa Jancarik

Director of Social Media and Online Ministries

Sarah Stribling

Director of Recreational Ministry (ARC)

Matt Clawson