

Campbell



CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AUGUST, 2011

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A Rousing Welcome for the Mishlers

On Sunday, July 10th, Pastor Jim Mishler, wife Jan and family were given a warm welcome by the congregation. The services were followed by a tri-tip BBQ with wonderful dishes supplied by everyone to share. Lively banjo music and a hilarious Jeopardy game rounded out the celebrations as you can see from the above pictures. ❖

Campbell Connections

A monthly publication of
Campbell United Methodist Church

Editor - Heather Reynolds
Copy Proofing - Dave Foyle
Gail Jacobs

The Campbell Connections is mailed
the 3rd Wednesday* of each month.
Deadline to submit an article is 4 p.m.
on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Submit article to Church Office
or e-mail the Editor at:
hreynolds63@gmail.com.

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*If there are 5 Wednesdays in a month
the newsletter will be mailed on the 4th
Wednesday & the deadline for articles will
be on the 3rd Wednesday.

If you have any questions regarding
the mailing, please call the office at
408-378-3472



CAMPBELL UMC is a RECONCILING CONGREGATION



CHURCH STAFF

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MUSIC MINISTRY, Mary Ann Gee

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Ginny Johnson

VOLUNTEER YOUTH COORDINATOR

Melinda Knepp

CUSTODIAN, Hector Estrada

Church Office: 408 378-3472

Web Site: www.campbellunited.org



Sunday Worship: 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

African Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.

(1st & 3rd Sundays)

New Creation UMC Worship: 12:30 p.m.

Bright Days Preschool

Mary Smith, Director: 408-378-8422

www.brightdayspreschool.com



Pastor's Point of View

Dear Friends:

It's been a rewarding first month for me as pastor of Campbell UMC. I want you to know how much Jan and I appreciate the warm and wonderful welcome we've received. It's good being members of this church family!

I've been getting questions...

- *Several of you have asked about what you should call me. I'm happy to have everyone call me Jim. However, I'll also readily answer to Pastor Jim or any similar friendly greeting. Please call me by whatever name is most comfortable for you to use.*
- *Another question being asked is, "When will you be in the church office?" This is a tricky question because pastoral emergencies, out-of-office meetings and spur-of-the-moment creativity frequently change even the best of plans. But my plans are to be in the office every Tuesday thru Friday – most always in the mornings while in/out during the afternoons. Mondays will be my day off, Saturdays will be filled with special church events, community involvements and sermon preparation and I'll be where you expect me to be on Sundays.*
- *Another question is about how to contact me. Please note that I have the same cell phone number as Pastor Alan did and it is the best way to reach me. You can call me at 408-637-1500 at any time. And, if you have to leave a message, I will always return the call just as soon as possible.*

I look forward to getting to know each of you during the summertime. Perhaps it will be following worship services over coffee and snacks. Also, during August, I'll continue with my Summer Sermon Series, "New Looks at Old Stories."

See you in church!

Blessings,

Pastor Jim



Methodist 101 Classes

The summer classes offering an introduction to Methodism will begin Sunday, August 14th. The classes will be held over six Sundays and start at 10:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Topics covered include the Books of Methodism (Bible, Hymn Book, Discipline), a brief history of the United Methodist Church, the Sacraments, Social Principles, the way Methodists think and our own Campbell UMC. This is a great way to commit to your intentional faith development. Please contact Sue Foyle (suefoyle@sbcglobal.net) to register for the class or find out how to become a member. ✂

Church Council Update

At the last Charge Conference in June, we approved the new list of church officers as proposed by the Nominations Committee. Thank you to everyone who ended their term on a committee and welcome to those who

are joining new committees as the 'Class of 2014'.

It was also decided to merge the Stewardship Committee into Finance, while Church & Society and Missions have been united to form Disciples in Action. Copies of the Church Officers are available from the church office.

If you feel you can make a contribution by joining a church group, please contact Bruce Hallinan (408)377-4963 or at hallinans@comcast.net.

The next church council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24th and everyone is invited to attend and provide input. ✂

Collecting School Supplies

Disciples in Action (formerly the Mission Committee and the Church and Society Committee) is collecting school supplies this summer for the Rosemary Elementary school. A box will be in the narthex of the church starting July

10th. We are collecting a wide variety of school supplies, please see the list posted in the Narthex.

Of note: 1000 yellow No. 2 pencils and 300 pink erasers are needed for the pencil bags that are being stitched for the children. The collection will continue through Labor Day. Please contact Jane LaPierre at 408-558-4831 with any questions. ✂

Meet The Pastor

Get to know Pastor Jim Mishler! There will be a series of meetings starting in the summer called "Meet the Pastor." The short gatherings will be held in members' homes, as well as on the church campus. The hope is that in these small groups we will get better acquainted with each other as well as with Pastor Jim.



Please email Ellen Droke at: eadroke@aol.com - with comments, questions, and/or if you are interested in hosting a group of eight to ten people, either in your home or at the church.

Ellen Droke, Adult Council ✂

50+ San Francisco Guided Walking Tour - Fort Mason to Aquatic Park

Friday, September 16th meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. to carpool to Fort Mason. This remarkable walk along the northern waterfront includes unique views and exciting accounts of many of the most important events of San Francisco history, including the Spanish era, military changes, Civil War times, 1906 earthquake, PPIE, the astonishing development of the GGNRA and the saga of Aquatic Park. Incomparable vistas adjacent to the last unaltered bit of SF coast.

Any questions, contact Jack or Joyce Hocker at 268-4646. ✂

In the COMMUNITY

Let's Volunteer at Second Harvest Food Bank

In March, the Church and Society Committee (now Disciples in Action) organized their first volunteer activity at the Second Harvest Food Bank. Afterwards, everyone asked when they could do it again. Well, how about Saturday, August 6th, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.? What better way to learn more about the Second Harvest Food Bank than to volunteer at their San Jose Distribution Center!

In March, everyone had a great time. Volunteer Laura Smith said it was a, "good way to serve and it was a great way to get to know some of the folks I don't usually see at church." Sherry Riney Finzel added, "I was so impressed by the Second Harvest operation, and my heart was warmed to make

such a small contribution to such an extraordinary effort."

As Second Harvest Food Bank says, "Nothing else matters when you're hungry." Let's help do something that matters and have some fun at the same time! If you can't volunteer with the Wednesday Wonder Workers, perhaps a Saturday would better fit your schedule.

We are only given 15 volunteer slots, so sign up now and reserve your spot on the volunteer team. If you're free on August 6th, you're 14 years of age or older, and you'd like to spend a few hours helping others less fortunate, send an email to Gail Jacobs at gailj_2000@yahoo.com. More details will be provided to the volunteers.

Gail Jacobs
Disciples in Action ✂



vacation bible school

by Christian Babcock

Spanning the week of June 27th to July 1st, **inside out and upside down on main street** Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2011, was a rewarding experience for everyone who participated. Spearheaded by Brook Hendershot and run by United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF), VBS was a fun way to learn all about God. Kids started the day at **Side Walk Celebration** where they watched educational videos and sang fun songs. They also learned the day's, "Word on the Street" - a daily word which they learned the meaning of over the course of the day. Then it was on to **Parable Productions**, where they heard the word of God and watched the leaders act it out. Then it was off to one of their three daily rotations, which included **Firehouse Fitness**, where kids got their exercise in fun games, **Fun Factory**, where kids participated in exciting crafts, and **Brown Bag Bistro**, where kids got to have a snack and something to drink and fill their engines back up. After their last rotation, kids and their age-group leaders went back to their tent for group time, where each kid shared what they had learned that day, and what the "Word on the Street" meant to them. Then everyone headed back over to **Sidewalk Celebration**, where each age-group had someone, or the entire group, share what the "Word on the Street" meant in their definition. Then the kids were picked up by their parents. So many kids really enjoyed the experience and wish to come back next year. Thanks to everyone at CUMC for supporting VBS. ✖

Christian Babcock is an active member of UMYF.

HISTORY HELPERS

"snippets from our past"

from the May 14, 1974 edition of the "Spotlight News"! Clarice Briggs, who recently died, was very active in the church for years as this article illustrates.

BEDSPREADS GIVEN

The young ladies at Franklin House girls' residence at Fred Finch Youth Center recently received a gift of 12 hand-made bedspreads from the Sack Lunch Bunch of the First United Church of Campbell.

Twelve members of the Sack Lunch Bunch meet each month to sew to help others. They range in age from about fifty to over ninety.

Mrs. Daisy Miner is a spry 91 years old and one of the most faithful workers, according to Mrs. Kenneth Lee, representative of the group. Mrs. May David and Mrs. Russell Briggs are co-chairpersons.

This is not the first time their generosity has cheered Fred Finch's children, for they have been doing such acts of kindness for a number of years.

(The above article is a reprint from United Methodist Reporter - our Annual Conference newspaper.)

Pastor Alan's Farewell: Tears, Testaments, and Triumphs

Campbell United Methodist Church said farewell to Pastor Alan and former Pastor Linda Pickens-Jones following Alan's last service at Campbell UMC on Sunday, July 19, 2011. There was a plethora of potluck dishes that nearly spanned the length of the Fellowship Hall. Members of the church's committees and groups paid tribute to the many ways Alan and Linda touched their lives and helped them on their spiritual journeys.

The farewell luncheon gave Campbell UMC the opportunity to shed a few tears and leave them behind as we, as a congregation, reminisced and told amusing anecdotes and touching testaments. People shared their stories and sentiments through music, skits, and humor.

Though there was sadness, perhaps the greatest testament to Alan's time with Campbell UMC was the knowledge that what he began will continue. The many programs, activities, connections and challenges he put forth created an even stronger congregation that will move forward. The very special 9/11 interfaith dinner will continue. Alan's many triumphs will be his legacy. The potluck offered the church a way to express the many ways in which Pastor Alan made a difference within and outside Campbell UMC and to thank him for his years of loving service and the cherished memories with which the church is left.

As we welcome and move forward with Pastor Jim Mishler, we are grateful for the Jones family, who inspired us through word and deed. And we are most appreciative of Pastor Alan's triumphs, which have built a solid foundation for even greater faith, hope, love and discipleship.

Gail Jacobs ✖

DVD's made by Mark Shepherd are for sale and the proceeds will go towards a new video camera for the church. Contact Mark at: mark@legacyfilmsandmedia.com

Methodist Connection

Care-A-Vaners

CARE-A-VANERS AT SHASTA METHODIST CAMP

Our traditional Memorial Day week of work at Shasta Methodist Camp was postponed to June 20th due to the winter's heavy snowfall. The Care-A-Vaners were at Shasta Methodist Camp to prepare the camp for the summer activities. Dave and Susan Sargent and Marv and Ina Tanner were among the twenty Care-A-Vaners attending. We did the usual work to open the camp. The lodge and bathrooms were thoroughly cleaned. Dave and Susan were relentless in clearing the many trails and tent sites. Marv built a new "fire box" to contain fire fighting tools and he repaired the existing box for continued use.



Marv Tanner

The highlight of this trip was to celebrate Paul Armentrout's retirement. Paul has been the camp caretaker and host for about 16 years, which is about as long as the Care-A-Vaners have been going to Shasta. Twelve Campbell UMC members have known Paul over the years of working at Shasta. Linda Perkins made a quilt with places for us to write messages to Paul, and we all contributed to a money tree for Paul. On Friday night we had a celebration dinner for Paul at the Casa Ramos restaurant. Three couples who had worked previously with the Care-A-Vaners at Shasta drove up for the party.



Paul Armentrout

Marv and Ina have been caring for their daughter's two dogs while she is on an extended trip. Ina stayed with the dogs in the RV in town while Marv worked at the camp. She was not idle though as she brought her baby Singer, and sewed seven bags for UMCOR school kits and knitted a sweater for the layette kits. She also prepared snacks for Marv to take for break time.



Ina Tanner

Work was started on installing fire mains in the camp. There was the usual

repair of toilets and plumbing. After many previous repairs, the back door to the lodge was replaced. A major effort was made to improve camp fire safety by clearing and burning limbs and pine needles. We helped Paul move tools from his cabin and sort through his stored items in preparation for moving. Of course we took time for our ritual breaks and a potluck. When all our work was done, the camp looked really nice for the summer campers. We will return to Shasta over Labor Day to prepare the camp for winter. You with RVs are invited to join us.



Marvin and Ina Tanner ❄️

Circuit Writer



Dealing with Darkness

Rev. Larry LaPiere

Almost every child knows what it's like to be afraid of the dark. That's why we have night lights. That's why children ask for glasses of water after the parents have said "Good night." I'm not sure, but I suspect that's why so many of us like stuffed animals on our beds as children—i.e., so that we won't be alone in the dark.

The story of the healing of the Gerasene demoniac in Mark 5:1-20 is a story about darkness. It is not a story that I would recommend telling to young children. It raises too many questions—i.e., "What is a demoniac? Where is Gerasene? Why was that man living in a graveyard? How could anyone break a chain? Why did the man howl in the mountains? What is an unclean spirit?" Etc., etc.

It's so much easier to teach young children to be "nice," to be "kind," and to do what their parents, teachers and the police officer tell you to do. Even that has gotten complicated with the revelation of all the kinds of abuse that exist even here in California.

Sooner or later, however, our children get old enough to notice what the Gerasenes noticed—i.e., that there are dark forces that are difficult, if not impossible, to restrain by ourselves. Our young people look around and notice the illegal drug trafficking and the crime that goes with it. If we live in cities like Oakland (or even San Jose) they notice how many people get shot. Then they look at our national involvements around the world—in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and other places where people are being killed.

They (and we) may or may not believe in a Devil, but it is hard to deny that there are forces that do not have our best interests at heart. Shall we continue to tell the children to stay away from dangerous areas and people who are a threat to them? Certainly. But what do we tell them about the reasons

for war, gang wars, spousal abuse, child abuse, sexism, racism and the effects of poverty? Some of them live with a distant knowledge of these things. Others are more intimately aware of them.

I've written about evil elsewhere.¹ My point here is twofold: it is real, and it erodes us as spiritual persons. To try to deal with it alone is to underestimate its power. To assume that God will control it without us doing our part to resist is presumptuous. Jesus recognized what he was facing, confronted it and drove it away. Still, some people asked Jesus to leave their neighborhood. Being afraid of the dark is sometimes very appropriate. Doing nothing to invite God's presence into our darkness is foolish. It is also to endure the darkness without the One who waits to illuminate our darkness.

Rev. Larry LaPiere ✕

¹ "A Theory about the Nature of Evil," *The Journal of Pastoral Care & Counseling*, 62, 1-2, Spring-Summer, 2008, p. 99-111.



Come Before Winter

My favorite sermon was preached by Reverend Paul Nelson the pastor of my church when I was a youth. His text was 2 Timothy 4:1-22 and the part I'll always remember is the phrase, "come before winter" to which Pastor Nelson added, "or it will be too late." Here is what else I remember:

Second Timothy is a very personal letter written by the apostle Paul to Timothy. Paul reminds Timothy of the gifts that God had given Timothy, offers advice and warnings to Timothy, does a little complaining, and a little preaching. In Chapter Four, Timothy is reminded to, "proclaim the message; be persistent, whether the time is favorable or unfavorable." In Verse 9, Timothy is told, "Do your best to come to me soon" and again at the end of the letter in Verse 21 instructs Timothy to, "Do your best to come before winter."

At the writing of this letter Paul is presumed to be in Rome and in prison

— no doubt under great hardship, and according to the letter he has few friends left with him. Paul needs assistance and we can infer that he needs it soon — he repeats his request to "come soon". The request that Timothy "come before winter" is significant because the ships of the time would not have been able to travel during the winter and would have greatly delayed Timothy's arrival. We can infer that Paul's request was very urgent.

Certainly Reverend Nelson interpreted it that way and used this text as part of his urging us to not wait to start doing God's work. Reverend Nelson's words still ring in my ears, "Come before winter, or it will be too late." There is an urgency in this world for certain things, the love we give, the hope we share, and the work God has called us to do. If we don't act now, when will it happen?

There are people out there who need help, people who are hungry for the word. There are places out there that need know God's love. Places where working hands are needed. As Pastor Jim noted in last week's message the prophet Micah calls us to, "do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humble with your God."

The time for justice, kindness and walking with God is now - before winter. Before it is too late.

Andrew Reynolds ✕

The articles that appear in Spiritual Stories are the personal stories of those who attend Campbell UMC, describing how they have experienced, and are experiencing, God in their lives. These personal experiences may have been 50 years ago at a church camp, last week in the mountains, or yesterday at the supermarket. Where and how has God been revealed to you? In what ways have you seen that God is guiding your life? Where have you seen the hands of Jesus at work? You are invited to tell your stories of the ways in which God has touched you... people really do want to hear your stories! Submit your Spiritual Journeys articles to the Newsletter Editor, Heather Reynolds <hreynolds63@gmail.com>.



MONTHLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

In June, our pledge giving was slightly above estimate. However, "Non-pledge" giving remained below estimate; it is now \$9.7K below estimate. Overall, our giving and other income is sufficient to meet expenses. We continue to save on personnel expenses. With summer here, remember to keep your pledges current.

Income and Expenses thru May 2011

	May	Year to Date	YTD Budget
Income	\$44.0K	\$212.3K	\$217.4K
Expenses	\$37.7K	\$205.2K	\$228.1K
Excess	\$6.3K	\$7.1K	

NEW "Interview Series" coming soon featuring Dave Sargent and YOU!



Campbell UMC wants to hear your story.

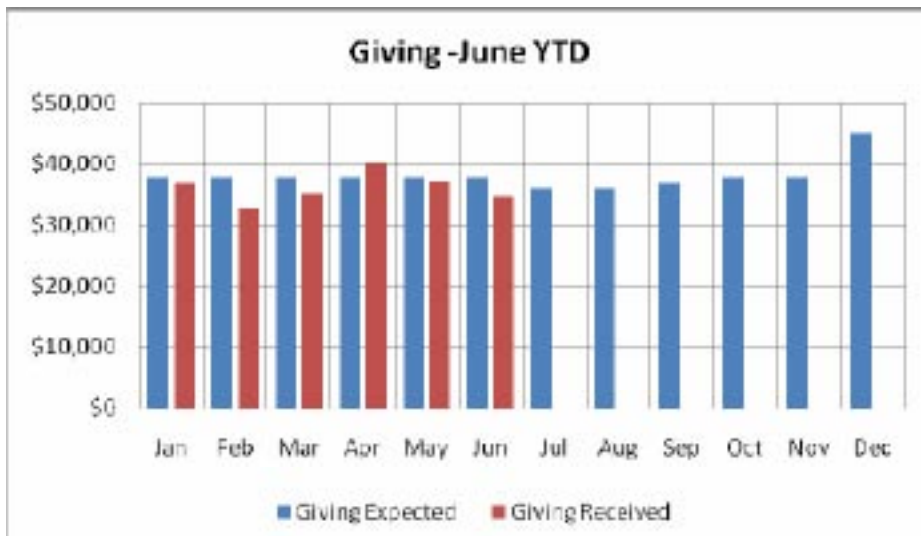
If you are a member or friend of the church and are a veteran, your story would be valued by this church.

It would be logical to start with WWII Veterans and Dave Sargent is eager to sit down and listen to your story. I'm sure he'll have questions that we all need to hear answers to.

The idea is to record the conversation between the veteran and Dave, and then other talented folk will write up the dialogue. Transcripts would be approved by the interviewee before going to press.

If you have interest in this project in the role of Veteran, Interviewer, Transcriber or photographer, please let the Editor know.

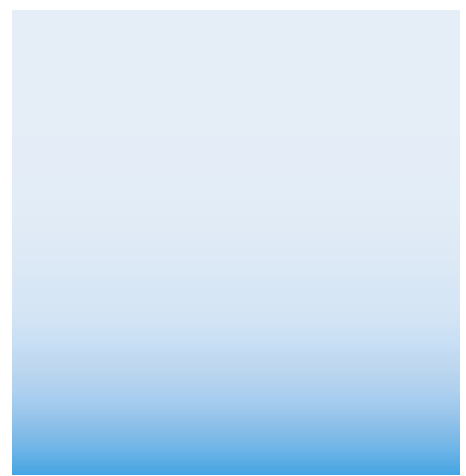
Send an email to: hreynolds63@gmail.com, or phone 408-971-6343



SOUP SUPPER RECIPE
HAMBURGER BARLEY VEGETABLE
FROM JAN GRODEON

1 1/2 lb ground beef	2 bay leaves
2 c. sliced carrots	6 c. water
1 1/2 c. chopped onions	3 beef bouillon
1 1/2 c. chopped celery	1/4 c. catsup
1/2 c. chopped green pepper	28 oz. tomatoes, cut
1/3 c. barley	8 oz. tomato sauce
1t. salt, 1/8 t. pepper	

In 5 qt. dutch oven saute beef and drain. Stir in remaining ingredients. Bring to boil. Simmer 1 hr. and remove bay leaves.
or
use a crock pot. Put it on low in the morning and add barley for last hour.





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People reaching out, with open minds,
souls and hearts -
Nourishing spirituality
Engaging creativity
Building social justice
Providing loving, welcoming community
- for Christ and the world.



Counting Sheep

(August 1993)

by Peg Ingle

*When I'm in trouble
And can't sleep
I try to get there
by counting sheep*

*But when I'm counting
Some sheep I miss
So I'm wide awake
And I know this*

*So rather than counting
I've found instead
To talk to the Shepherd
And rest in bed!*