

Campbell



CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY, 2011

inside out and upside down on main street

That's the theme of this year's **Vacation Bible School**.

Each day will start with a **Sidewalk Celebration** with great music and fellowship. Then it's on to **Parable Productions** where Jesus' parables will be explored and the kids will take a look at what the Bible says about Gratitude, Compassion, Forgiveness, Grace and Faithfulness. Each morning will also include hands-on crafts at the **Fun Factory**, snacks at the **Brown Bag Bistro**, and fun through exercise at **Firehouse Fitness**.

So mark your calendar, VBS will be **Monday, June 27 through Friday, July 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon**. The cost is \$20 per child and \$10 for each additional sibling. If you didn't receive a registration form in the mail you can pick one up at the church office. Contact Brook Hendershot if you have any questions at brookhendershot@yahoo.com or 408-314-6861.

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Campbell Connections

A monthly publication of
Campbell United Methodist Church
Editor - Heather Reynolds
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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**



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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



The chocolate eggs and bunny ears have been in the stores for months... but in the church calendar we have been waiting, working our way through the slow and lethargic weeks of Lent, looking inward, and preparing ourselves for the momentous events of Holy Week. Now it has arrived and the "surprise" of Easter is upon us.

For somebody who is an uninformed outsider to the life of faith it is difficult to say in a short sentence why Easter is important or even significant. Most of us have grown up assuming that Easter is the "big event" of the annual Christian calendar. We talk about celebrating the promise of new life, and hope in Jesus Christ. We talk about the empty tomb and the triumph of Jesus over the powers of death and evil.

Most of our language would mean little or nothing to people who have no previous experience of faith. For a typical person on the street in Santa Clara valley, the option of eating some chocolate and laughing at the bunny ears may seem more appealing!

As we talked at a recent soup supper about the content of the Good News we have to share, I was struck by the fact that several people made reference to listening as the primary good news people are seeking. Most people are not searching for somebody to tell them good news. Rather they are hoping that somebody will come into their lives, listen to them, and hear their struggle. Once a person has been genuinely heard, they can start to believe that there is hope for their lives, and they rediscover the power of love to heal and bring new joy in their daily routines.

Hearing and understanding the rich imagery of the cross and the empty tomb is impossible for a person who sees little beyond their own life struggles. Once those struggles are heard it just might be possible to understand the notion of a God who enters into the bloody painfulness of human experience, and then finds a way to break out and find hope that transcends even the most painful experiences of life. This God promises a dramatic new start for the human family where every human being knows that they are loved and celebrated.

The Easter message is a great message of powerful hope and love that can indeed save the world from itself. It all begins with listening ears and open hearts. God's grace is being made real in you, and all of us, this Easter. Christ is alive in us. Hallelujah!

Pastor Alan



On the CAMPUS

High Road Hikers April Hike

The April hike led by Andrew and Heather Reynolds took a cool - as in windy- hike to Borel Hill (2500ft) where there are panoramic views of the bay



area. Hiking continued on the oceanside trail, around the mountain. There were some early wildflowers and the group ate their packed lunch by the Nature Center at Alpine Lake.

Happy Hiking! ✂

Living the Bible

The Sunday afternoon Living the Bible class is taking a Spring Break. **Classes will resume on Sunday, June 5th**, continuing the study of the Gospel of Matthew. June 5th would be a great time for anyone who has an interest in this group to come and check it out. The conversation on June 5th will be about Matthew, Chapter 18. ✂

Family Fun Event

We had such a great time at our last Family Fun Event in September, we are bringing you another one! Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 15th, 2011 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. We will have family activities, singing and dinner. ✂

Small Group Leadership



You have heard a lot lately about the benefits small groups play in a

church congregation. At the Lenten Soup Supper, Rev Kristie Olah talked about their importance and the Bishop touched on the subject at our combined Worship Sunday. Small group meetings can enhance unity among members, develop leadership, provide learning opportunities, increase outreach and attract new members.

At Campbell UMC we have a variety of small groups with different members and different reasons for meeting. The Visioning team is now preparing to invite you to join a small group to achieve our mission of empowering disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world with love.

Like several United Methodist churches, the Rev. Brad Kalajainen of Cornerstone Church in suburban Grand Rapids, Michigan used small groups to grow his congregation. He is pretty direct about the subject. "We are only in one business and that is to make disciples," Kalajainen said. "The goal of small groups is to connect people to Christ and connect people to each other."

But the formation of small groups is not new. Class meetings originated with John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, in England. Wesley knew from Scripture, tradition, reason and experience that character formation requires participation in relationships of grace, love and trust.

The practice continued when Francis Asbury and other circuit-riding preachers brought Methodism to New York from 1766 to 1780. People who came to class meetings included "seekers" as well as believers. Hearing the testimony of other class participants could help the seekers find clarity for their own faith journeys. Attendance at the weekly meetings, which usually lasted about an hour and a half, was mandatory. If you missed three meetings, you could actually find yourself expelled from the class!

The structure for a class meeting revival was approved by the 1988

United Methodist General Conference. That legislative body stated that a pastor, in consultation with the local church nominating committee, could recommend a number of class leaders to be elected from that local church. The leaders would then invite the congregation to join their classes, with new members being assigned to existing classes.

So we know that small groups have benefits - some writers have described small groups as the 'soul of Methodism' while others say that 'it is in our DNA'. We even have instructions from a General Conference on how to form small groups. So why do we not have more small groups at Campbell UMC empowering disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world with love? I believe it is because we do not have enough class leaders prepared to undergo some training and start a small group. I believe these advocates have to be passionate about their group's subject and be prepared to invite 8 to 10 people to join their group.

Do you feel passionate enough to learn to be a small group leader? In April, a 'small group' met to define the role of a Coordinator of Small Group Ministries, plan class leader training, identify discussion topics, opportunities to join small groups and prepare the congregation for their involvement and participation in small groups. The Administrative Council will be asked to reduce committee meeting times so members can be more involved in small group meetings.

In order for this church to be effective in outreach it will be necessary to offer a clear path to discipleship that involves prayer, service, study and accountability in community in addition to worship. The overall goal is to inspire and enable all Campbell UMC participants (including the pastor) to be focused in intentional faith development and proactive in service ministry - spending less time in church meetings, and less energy on maintaining the infrastructure of the church.

If you feel you can make a difference as a small group leader please contact the church office or email me at: hallinans@comcast.net. Otherwise, you



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may want to start considering what type of small group you would want to be involved.

Bruce Hallinan, Administrative Council ❧

Trading Stamps Long Gone – Bar Codes Today!

For over thirty years, we have been supporting McCurdy School in New Mexico (see History Helpers). Clip your "Box Tops for Education", found on Campbell soup, Pepperidge Farms, and many other products. Only the box top symbol and bar code proof of purchase are wanted. They can be left in the kitchen, first drawer just inside the door to the foyer.

Thanks to you from Campbell United Methodist Women. ❧

Telling Our Story Workshop May 14th, 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Outreach committee has launched three new story telling channels, the newsletter "Campbell Connections," the new web site and video recording of the Sunday sermon. Technology has brought the church many new ways to share the good news, videos, emails, web sites, podcasts, webinars, text, conference calling, youtube, facebook...

The Outreach committee wants to invite the larger Campbell United community to be active participants in the story telling as Outreach looks into using these technologies for ministry in the larger world.

The morning will include presentations about what the committee is currently doing with the newsletter, videos and web site along with demonstrations of how easy it to use these new tools and how everyone can participate. There will be a general discussion and the committee will listen to your feedback, ideas and visions. There will be follow-up sessions in coming months for those who want more in-depth training in any area.

Outreach is activity looking for people to volunteers to write stories,

report on events, take pictures, make videos, maintain the web site, start a social media ministry or just tweet for Jesus. If you have any interest in these areas this workshop is for you. Outreach is ready to help you become a story teller.

Contact Andrew Reynolds for more information: areynoldsre@gmail.com ❧

Housing Needed for Singers

The **St. Petersburg Men's Quartet will be singing in Worship on May 15th.** This talented group of a capella singers has visited before and delighted us with their beautiful voices, and repertoire of Russian music. *We need to provide housing for them on Saturday, May 14th.* Can anyone host one or more of the men? It would mean providing a bed for the night, dinner Saturday, and breakfast Sunday, in time for them to be at church by 8:30 a.m. If you can help, please call the church office at (408) 378-3472. ❧

Great America /Gilroy Gardens Coupons

Coupons good for reduced-priced adult general admission at Great America and Gilroy Gardens are available in the church office. **Each coupon is good for 6 adults.** (*An "adult" is considered to be a person age 3 and up*). Coupons are good from March 27th through October 30th at Great America, and from March 27th through

November 27th at Gilroy Gardens. Specific restrictions apply for some events. Call or go online to confirm public operating dates and hours – phone numbers and websites are on the coupon. ❧

May Trustees Work Morning

Have you noticed the outside of our campus lately? The grounds and buildings don't take care of themselves, so on **Saturday May 14th**, the Trustees are having a work morning to care for them. The morning starts at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and goes until noon. Come for all or part as you are able. ALL help is appreciated. A light snack will be provided at 10'ish for a break and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you! ❧

May Activity for 50+ Group

On May 14th we will meet at the church parking lot at 8:45 a.m. to carpool promptly at 9 a.m. to San Juan Bautista State Historic Park and go on a guided tour that will include the Plaza Hotel, Zanetta House, Plaza stables and Castro-Breen Adobe.

Cost of the guided tour is \$7 - we will then have 1.5 hrs to do a self-guided tour of the Mission grounds, and the church. Lunch will be at the Jardines de San Juan at 1 p.m. Cost ranges from \$7-12. There are other choices for those who wish to eat elsewhere. Contact Darlene Dyer with questions, 378-0533.

HISTORY HELPERS

"snippets from our past"

from the April 3, 1980 edition of the "Spotlight News"

GIVE A STAMP-BUILD A GYM

We now have another opportunity to offer our support to the work of mission at McCurdy Schools, Espanola, New Mexico. By sending any type of trading stamps (i.e. S&H green stamps) we can help McCurdy build a new gymnasium. Through generous donations of these stamps, McCurdy has already secured a 59 passenger school bus.

So dig out those stamps and bring them individually or in full books to the Education Desk.

Methodist Connection

Care-A-Vaners

In March, the Care-A-Vaners traveled in their RVs to the Salem UMC in Lodi to improve the church facilities. Fortunately all our work was indoors, as it rained every day. Gene and Elaine Hill, Dave and Susan Sargent and Marvin and Ina Tanner were among the fifteen volunteers from six conference churches. The Care-A-Vaners work as a team and we usually accomplish a lot more than is expected. Lodi was no exception. We worked in two main areas; the education building and the recreation room beneath the sanctuary. As is characteristic with the Care-A-Vaners, we painted all week. We painted four classrooms, two with bathrooms, the long hallway and two bathrooms in the education building, and two bathrooms in the recreation room. We were able to use paint and painting supplies provided by Dick and Bertie Meehan and Fran Sneed.



Dave Sargent

We did a major improvement in the recreation room lighting by replacing the eight incandescent light fixtures, many with 300 watt bulbs, with fluorescent light fixtures. The plumbing repair jobs included fixing four leaking toilet flush valves and installing a new toilet in one of the bathrooms. Can you believe we found a pipe fitting screwed onto plain copper tubing? Also the recreation room kitchen sink drain plumbing was replaced. Four wooden-framed screens for the recreation room were repaired and painted and some cabinet and wall repair was done.

The Salem church has a vibrant and friendly Latino congregation. We were especially blessed by socializing with members of the congregation and their young children. Pastor Lila Ochoa was with us every day. Women of the church graciously fed us delicious meals for lunch. Some men of the church tackled the job of painting a 14-foot high ceiling, relieving us of that difficult job. Love abounded as we received hugs when our work was completed.



Gene Hill and Pastor Lila

With the heavy rainfall, there was a problem of water leaking into the sanctuary. Salem UMC is a low-income church, and it is in dire need of a new roof. Perhaps someone in our congregation knows a person with either materials or labor that would be able to help this church.

The Care-A-Vaners next project will be to the UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City. We will work in the depot one week and work another week at the Centenary UMC where we will be parking our RVs. The Hills and Tanners will be taking the UMCOR kits and supplies collected at our church (See related article in the April 2011 Campbell Connections).

Marvin and Ina Tanner ✕

UM Women

Wet and Wild Weekend!

On the weekend of March 18th – 20th the District United Methodist Women held their annual spiritual retreat at Mission Springs Christian Center in Scotts Valley. This was my 13th year to attend, I have only missed one year in the last 14 years.

This year's leaders were the Rev. Debbie Weatherspoon and the Rev. Sun Hee Kim. They had us exploring the different ways of communicating with others, across cultures and different ages. We broke into 3-person groups and explored who we are and what are some of the events in our lives that brought us to there. We broke into groups by age 20's to 30's, 40's, 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's and were instructed to make a poster of who we were, and what was important in our lives. The differences and similarities of the posters I found quite interesting.

One of the things I took from the weekend was don't let the differences becoming a stumbling block when trying to communicate with others - be aware of "Who" it is you are communicating with - listen and hear what the other person is saying.

Besides the sessions with the speakers, there is the great food, singing, making new friends and reconnecting with old friends, a talent show, board games and hiking when it's not a rainy weekend, reading and just relaxing.

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The story of the mural project



Mary Smith, director of Bright Days Preschool, had been working with Ann Watts from the organization 'Starting Arts' to find someone to paint a mural. Mary and Christine met with Trustees who approved of this earlier this year.

"I've been painting professionally for many years. I studied painting in Boston and have been painting murals in the Bay Area for over 6 years. My business is ChristineEmma Decorative Arts & Murals, you can see some of my work at www.ChristineEmma.com. It was Ann who found me and introduced me to the project. When I began there wasn't a concept in mind, only the desire that the mural should appeal to both young and old, coordinate with the mural in the hall, and perhaps incorporate the light fixtures somehow. I came up with six concept sketches, mostly outdoor scenes inspired by nature. The Park Scene got the thumbs up; it met all the criteria and also opened up the space and gave it the illusion of depth. I revised the sketch several times and submitted a final color sketch for approval."

Christine Clarke

UM Women

Continued from p. 5

The wet and wild part of this weekend was the rain that we had all weekend. You remember that weekend don't you? The tornado warning in San Mateo, the pouring rain and high winds. It was no different in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Saturday night is when it became "wild"; playing scrabble when we lost power. But we kept on playing because we happened to be under the emergency light, finished our game an hour later and headed back to the lodge - where we were staying. Pitch black outside, pouring rain, rushing water and Janice's flashlight in our room. My smartphone comes to the rescue, I have a flashlight app on it. Get to the lodge no water, assume it because of the loss of power.

Sunday morning arrives gray and rainy and still no power or water. Find out that a tree had taken down a power line and that the water that was racing by us the night before was from the water tank up on the mountain where a tree had uprooted and broke the pipes for the tank. But there was a warm breakfast waiting for us, a change of location for our gatherings so we could be near a fireplace and the day continued on. We close the weekend with a beautiful worship service with communion. After the service we are fed a warm lunch and make our way back home.

Rain or no rain I always find these retreats to be fun, reflective and nourishing. Come and join us next year, all women are invited you don't have to be a member of the United Methodist Women.

Sally Wenzel, UMW President

CHECK THIS OUT

Link to the United Methodist Communications Newsletter
MyCom

<http://www.umcom.org>
and click on "MyCom" box on menu line under logo

Circuit Writer



What Binds Us Together?

Rev. Larry LaPierre

The Church that I grew up in did not sing. So, I'm 68 years old, ordained and if someone asks me to sing anything other than "Amazing Grace," I'm pretty well limited to one verse unless I have a hymnal. That's too bad because music is one of the ways that we connect with each other.

Reading the same Bible can help to connect us as well. What do I mean? Well, I used to think that people who insisted on reading only the King James Version of the Bible were too demanding. Now, some years later, I find that I have my preferences, and I get annoyed when I have to listen to a version that I don't like.

Am I just getting older and crankier? Probably. However, one of the things that I have learned from the people with whom I've been a pastor or a hospital chaplain is this: Maybe the differences that we thought were so important when we were young don't have to be so important now that we're older.

Of course, there are lots of people who would disagree with me. After all, one of the biggest fights in the Church lasted over 1000 years. The problem is expressed in the Nicene Creed where it says, "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son" The Eastern Orthodox Churches got upset with the Western Church for insisting that the Holy Spirit proceeded from both the Father and the Son. They believe that the Holy Spirit proceeds or comes from God the Father alone. In 1054 A.D. the two branches of the Church split.

There are plenty of other beliefs that divide the Christian Church. You know many of them. We divide over how literally to read the Bible. We disagree over what Holy Communion is. We don't agree on how many sacraments there are. Some of us believe that God has predestined some people to go to

heaven while others are predestined to go to Hell. Some of us insist that to be saved we must speak in tongues. Others don't have a clue as to what that means. We can't even agree on how much water to use at Baptism or whether sin is real and, if so, what that means.

Do we imagine that God is pleased with us as we keep finding new reasons to divide God's Church into smaller pieces? Perhaps it's time to pray for pastors, believers, seekers and those who don't even have a clue that there is such a thing as a spiritual journey. It would probably leave less time to be critical of those with whom we disagree theologically. Would that be so bad? True, it's almost always easier to criticize than to be collaborative and constructive, but I'm pretty sure that we've spent enough time being critical. I know that I have, but I'm pretty clear that I'm not likely to give it all up right away. Perhaps we could work together on that. What do you think?

Rev. Larry LaPierre ✕

I thought she was good, however, my choice was Sophia, the girl who came to us late.

The night of the banquet with over 1500 students and advisors in attendance, with awards given to the companies; finally names were called out for the recipients of the Dale Carnegie Course. To my surprise both girls' names were called.

A few months later I received a phone call from Sophia inviting my husband and me to attend her graduation and of course, we went.

That night each student got up and gave a three-minute speech. When it was Sophia's turn, she said that when she joined Junior Achievement she had been contemplating suicide! She said that the Junior Achievement experience changed her life.

A miracle? Yes, I do believe it was. God truly works in mysterious ways.

Anita Marenica ✕

Spiritual Stories

A Miracle?

Years ago, when I worked for Pacific Telephone in San Francisco, I was a management advisor to a Junior Achievement Company. Early in the forming of the company we lost our treasurer and we were without one for several weeks. Later a girl, Sophia, joined our company and stepped into the treasurer's position. To get her started, I helped her with the books. She was capable and soon was working on her own. She was very pleasant, always punctual, participated and attended all the meetings.

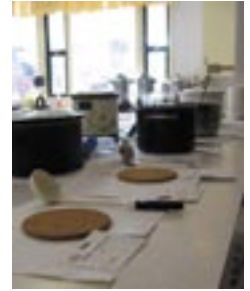
When the time came for the company to disband, the man in charge of the center approached me and told me that Dale Carnegie Public Speaking Inc. was going to award a Dale Carnegie course to one person from each company. He gave me a name of one of my members, who he thought would be a good recommendation. I told him

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Lent Soup Supper Series

The last of the five Lenten "Futuring Faith" suppers was held on April 12, when Pastor Alan guided everyone in a conversation to summarize the topics of the previous four Tuesdays. This has been a challenging and thought-provoking series. If you have yet to attend a soup supper I suggest that you pencil the Tuesday evenings of Lent into your 2012 calendar. These are precious evenings of nourishment to body and soul.



Many thanks to those who put the series together and to everyone who provided such delicious soups and breads, to those who helped set up and clean up, to all our speakers, to the engineers who made the audio visuals possible, to the pastors who led the communion service and to Pastor Alan for providing the music for reflection.

The first question of our last evening was about the Good News and how we share it with those who have not heard it. Our responses were: God is love and God loves us just the way we are; we share God's love by loving others and by "practicing the presence of God;" each of us has value; Jesus gives meaning and direction to our lives; Jesus teaches that we can hope, even amid the chaos of the world around us.



The second question concerned speaking across the divisions of race, age and culture. We said that we need to be deliberate about building relationships with people who are different from us; we need to listen to other people and invite them to tell us their stories; we must guard against being judgmental; we must look for the people who are invisible to us (that was Pastor Justin's challenge).

In the third question we were asked how resistant we were to change and to new forms for the church. District Superintendent Kristie Olah had addressed that question at the third week's gathering. We agreed that change is not easy and makes us feel uncomfortable, but that to keep the church relevant we must be willing to embrace change. In our own community, for example, we voted to become a reconciling congregation and we are gradually learning to participate in that change.



Kristie Olah and Alan Jones

In the fourth week Daniel Pickens-Jones led the discussion about the "emerging realities of community and communication," outlining how the new technologies can be used for good or for evil. We said that we can learn to tell our faith stories in the new social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Andrew Reynolds and Leon Johnson are encouraging us to tell our stories on our church website.

The question for the fifth and last week was, "Where do we go from here?" We watched an amazing video about Eric Whitacre's "Virtual Choir." Here is a link to one of the pieces we saw <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6WhWDCw3Mng>. At my table we said that, in spite of virtual communities, people are hungry for real community and connectedness. It is our job to invite others in and to listen to their stories and ideas. We must keep trying new things. Ginny cited our involvement with Elmwood as a powerful way to deepen our own faith and to bring God's love to people unlike ourselves. In all these questions the need for listening was part of our responses. In fact, Andrew suggested that perhaps we need a "Lay Listener" on our list of lay leaders!

Sue Edson, participant ✂

SOUP SUPPER RECIPE ENCHILADA SOUP FROM GILLIAN HARRINGTON

5 boneless chicken breasts
2 tsp. olive oil
1 chopped onion
2 to 3 cloves of garlic
2 quarts water
1 can of Rotel tomatoes & green chilies
2 pkg. of Enchilada sauce mix
4 or 5 corn tortillas, cut into small pieces
2 6oz. cans of tomato paste (with 4 cups of water)
2 3oz cans of chopped green cilies
1 tsp. cumin, 1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. pepper
1 tablespoon chili powder
8 to 12 oz velveeta cheese

Saute onions and garlic in olive oil in large stock pot. Add chicken breast and 2 quarts of water, simmer until chicken is tender. Remove chicken, add all other ingredients except cheese. Simmer 3 hours. Add cheese. Cut chicken into small chunks and return to broth. Simmer for at least 30 minutes. Serve with tortilla chips, sour cream and cilantro.

City of Campbell's
Great American Litter

PICK UP

Saturday, May 7, 2011

Clean-up

- 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Celebration

- 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

ART AND SPIRIT MINISTRY PRAYERS OF THE WOMEN

"In this circle, no fear... in this circle safety" - prayer song used at Elmwood

Prayers of the Women: Art & Spirit Ministry- Elmwood Correctional Facility

On March 20, there was a joyous, Spirit-filled worship service at Elmwood Correctional Facility. Chaplain Louann Roberts and her band enlivened the gathering of over 65 women with their powerful music. The visual art created during our three evenings at the jail- individual prayer crosses and the large, joyful community cross- transformed the space. Heartfelt prayers from these crosses, and sharing by many of the women, touched our souls. There were few dry eyes in the house!

A sampling:

I pray for new beginnings and blessings on all those who pass through here.

I pray for the light you bring even in moments of despair and darkness. We are thankful for hope, love and forgiveness.

I pray for all the mothers and fathers out there with or without their children.

Dear God, I pray for my family and their safety. I pray that you will work inside me so I can help someone else. Mold me in your light. Guide me, love me, I pray.

I pray for the strength and guidance on my journey through life to make the right decisions even when they don't feel good.

Heavenly Father, I pray for all the faith you provide for me each and every waking day. I pray for my children, grandchildren and baby. Forever keep them in your precious hands. Thank you for blessing us with this spiritual worship class. In the name of your precious and amazing son, Jesus.

Lord, come bring your life to the destruction and destroyed. Resurrect, breathe us back to fullness. Resurrect, color our grayness and wrap us in your forgiveness and grace. Keep our families and friends in your peace.

AMEN!

Each of the Campbell UMC women attending were asked to share how this experience reflects their faith. In response, Ginny Johnson sang our weekly prayer - 'In this Circle, No Fear' and reflected:

"What amazed me most was the immediate trust we received from you wonderful ladies. It would seem to me that the world you find yourselves in would not be a place that would encourage trust, or even make you feel like that was such a good idea. But you came into the room ready to be our sisters and welcoming us. I have been and still am touched by your acceptance and readiness to share with us as sisters in Christ. You all have been a wonderful gift to me. Because you are, my life is better."

The next session at the jail will be in May. Presently, our workshops are provided for those in security level 1 (out of 5). In September we hope to add additional workshops for those in security level 2. For those interested in joining this ministry, please contact Elaine Bondonno for training and session dates at: ebondonno@earthlink.net. ✕





MONTHLY FINANCIAL NEWS

February Year To Date income exceeded expenses by \$11.3K, but was \$4.2K less than budgeted income. Our February YTD expenses were \$8.5K less than budget. Our giving in March was \$2.6K less than expected. This shortfall is in “non-pledge” regular giving. Thank you to all who maintained your pledges in March, even though we were away for the Integrated Circuit Worship on March 13th. We had extra expenses in March and April for major immediate insurance and tax expenses that our reserves supplemented our normal giving.



Income and Expenses thru February 2011

	February	Year to Date	YTD Budget
Income	\$37.8K	\$81.1K	\$85.3K
Expenses	\$36.4K	\$69.8K	\$78.3K
Excess	\$1.4K	\$11.3K	

REPORT FROM FINANCIAL PLANNING APRIL ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE WORKSHOP



On April 9, 2011, the Endowment Committee held a Financial Planning Workshop which was attended by sixteen people. Here is a recap of the information shared in the workshop.

The presenter, Matt Daugavietis from Ameriprise Financial, is licensed by the State of California as a Certified Financial Planner. To begin the financial planning process he suggests we need to dream about what we want now or in 5 years, 10 years and beyond. One of the questions is where do you want to be in retirement. One constant in financial planning is that change happens all the time.

There are four things that you need to know to feel more confident about reaching your retirement goals.

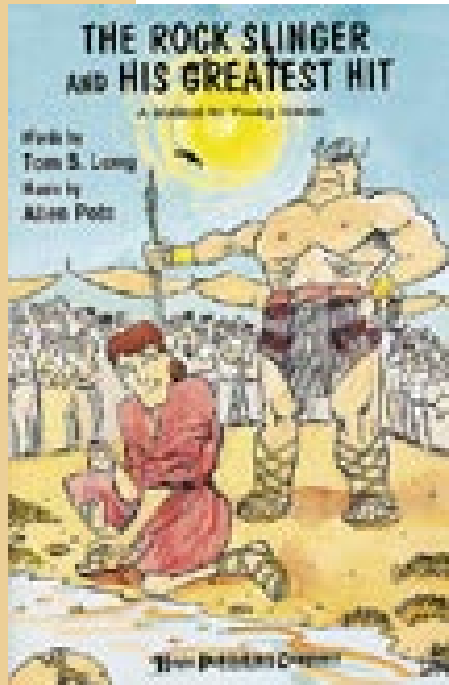
1. Review your cash and liabilities.
2. What type of protection do you need to meet your financial goals?
3. Build an investment portfolio that meets your long term needs.
4. Analyze how taxes will affect your goals.

To accomplish your goals you may want to consult some or all of the following: Financial Advisor - Attorney - Tax Advisor.

Terry Johnson – Vice Chair

DON'T MISS!

Invite your friends to the Children's Musical that is eagerly waited for each year.



THE ROCK SLINGER and HIS GREATEST HIT

Three thousand years ago, a shepherd boy faced an overwhelming enemy on a battlefield armed only with a sling, staff, and a courageous faith in God. The message - thirty centuries later - is still fresh: though we may tremble in our weakness, there is no darkness that God cannot overcome.

Please join us on Sunday, May 8, 2011 at both the 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. services, as the Joyful Notes Choir retells this wonderful story of David and Goliath in the musical, "The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit".

Daelene Groff, Joyful Notes Director ✂

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP - OUTSTANDING "CROPPERS"

UMYF TALKING "LISTEN UP"

CALENDAR

- sunday, may 1,**
11:45-1:30 p.m.
community service
- sunday, may 8**
no meeting
- saturday, may 21**
to sunday, may 22
7:30 p.m.
lock-in and breakfast
- sunday, april 29**
no meeting



UMYF was twelve strong (youth & leaders) on April 3 and they joined about fifteen other members of Campbell UMC at the South Bay Crop Walk.

Our youth walkers were Jordan Aspiras, Erica Adams, Marcel Solis, Adrienne Norris, Jack Hallinan, Christian Babcock, and Bodie Knepp. It was a beautiful day for the five-mile walk through the Rose Garden neighborhood of San Jose. And the water balloon fight at the end of the walk helped to cool everyone off.

Thank you to everyone that sponsored a youth and/or the youth group. They raised \$1,215 to help fight hunger. Way to go team!



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May 11, 2011
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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.



My Dream
by Peg Ingle

Oh, to live on a farm
And have fifteen cats
If I want them.
And a great big dog
To greet every guest.
It's a dream I've had
And I think it's the best.

To run up and down
A tree-shadowed lane
To take off my shoes
And wiggle my toes in the rain.
To ride cows bareback
In the pasture there
And feel the wind
Dance through my hair.

Tis a dream I dream in vain -
Just to be a child again.

