## Campbell



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# 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Schantz Organ Free Celebration Concert Sunday, September 29 at 3:30 p.m.





As Campbell United Methodist Church (CUMC) celebrates her 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Schantz organ celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The organ was installed in 1993 as part of the church's major renovation. The Schantz Organ Company in Orrville, Ohio built our organ that consists of 48 ranks or sets of pipes, 3 manuals or keyboards, plus pedals. There is also a set of 21 chimes and a zimbelstern, a set of small bells. There are 2,826 pipes that make up this instrument.

Over these last 20 years, Roger Inkpen of Newton Pipe Organ Services has devotedly maintained our organ with regular tunings and in August of 2013, did major work to straighten some leaning pipes, change some of the feltings of the pipes and built a new perchboard for easier access when he works on the pipes.

Dr. Roger Nyquist, our organ consultant and then professor at Santa Clara University, played the dedicatory recital on April 18, 1993. We will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an organ

Organ Committee chairman, George Cleveland

recital to be played by Carolyn Pryor, Director of Music here at CUMC from 1979 to 2000 and Mary Ann Gee, current organist. The program includes organ solos, organ duets and organ with steel drums.



Installation

The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary recital will be on Sunday, September 29, 2013, at 3:30 p.m. This is a gift to the congregation and community; another great opportunity for us to do outreach.

Organist, Mary Ann Gee <

## 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**

PASTOR, Paul Kim PASTOR FOR AFRICAN MINISTRY, **Daniel Gbundema** CHOIR DIRECTOR, Bill Cove ORGANIST, Mary Ann Gee

**ADMINISTRATOR OF CHURCH BUSINESS** Barbara Wade **SECRETARY** 

**Suzanne Dougan FAMILY MINISTRY COORDINATOR Holly Aspiras VOLUNTEER YOUTH COORDINATOR** Melinda Knepp

Church Office: 408 378-3472 Web Site: www.campbellunited.org

CUSTODIAN, Hector Estrada

Summer Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. African Ministry: 10:30 a.m.

(1st & 3rd Sundays)

New Creation UMC Worship: 12:30 p.m Quiet Communion: 6:00 p.m. Tuesday

#### **Bright Days Preschool**

Mary Smith, Director: 408-378-8422 www.brightdayspreschool.com



## Pastor's Pen

Pastor's Thoughts -Back to the School of the Spirit

Our children are already back in school to continue their learning. Let us surround our children, our teachers, our parents and our schools and our communities with prayer. Amazing things can happen when all of these partners and stakeholders in learning work together: we literally can see our future forming or dismantling right before our eyes. So let us pray fervently for our children, their friends, their teachers, coaches and principals, school bus drivers, cafeteria cooks, janitors, playground aides, all school volunteers, PTA leaders, school board members and teachers' union stewards. And be sensitive to where God's Spirit leads us to support our children and their learning process.

We also find there are many opportunities for all of us to grow – mind, body and spirit. I hope you will allow yourself to be stretched, intellectually, emotionally and socially. And spiritually too. We can always grow stronger in faith. We can always go back for a refresher course in the basics of our faith.

#### Let me offer four ways for us to grow strong spiritually this fall.

- 1. Starting in September, you will find a weekly insert in your bulletin called "Taking Faith Home." (You'll also be able to download it from our website on a weekly basis, or sign up for a weekly email.) It will give you a listing of daily Bible reading for the week, a prayer, a grace for the meal. In the back, you will have a chance to develop spiritual practices in your home with your spouse or partner, or family or by yourself. If our spiritual life is the only thing that we can take with us, why not invest a few moments each day attending to our souls?
- 2. Perhaps you do better by listening to the Bible rather than reading. You can get a CD of a dramatized reading of the New Testament, or download it on your smartphone by going online to www.faithcomesbyhearing.com and downloading their free app. If you listen for 15 minutes per day, you can hear the entire New Testament in 40 days. If you want a free CD, please contact the church office.
- 3. You've heard of Netflix and Hulu. Tens of thousands of movies, TV programs and documentaries are available online, at the click of a button. What if you could have hundreds of pertinent online Bible studies led by some of the prominent Christian teachers? Our church is making available the online church video library at www. RightNowMedia.org for each of our members. If you have an email address, you'll have received an email from them during late August, giving you permission to make use of their library of online Bible studies which you can stream right to your computer or smartphone.

There are wonderful Bible studies on all kinds of themes – from deepening your faith, prayer life, Bible knowledge or strengthening your relationships or becoming better parents. You'll also be able to attend Christian conferences - online and listen to prominent speakers. Please explore the library.

Ministry groups can add their own training videos online for members to view as well.

If you find there is a Bible study you like, let me know. Perhaps we can coordinate a virtual small group that can gather in person once in a while but do most of our group work online.

4. Don't miss the Ministry Fair on September 22, 10 am to 11 a.m. Each of the ministry groups in our church will have a table where you can learn more about ways to serve others and serve God in the church.

If you've always wanted to learn more about some ministry in the church, that's



## **Your Ideas And Opinions On Our Courtyard**

Last few days to inform the Trustees about your ideas for the courtyard! In September, we will gather all the ideas and select the one that best fits the campus and our wishes. Please submit suggestions in writing to John Finzel, Trustees Chair at: jjfinzel@att.net, or drop off/mail to the church office. �

## **Joyful Notes Choir is** Starting!



If you like to sing and have fun, then come and join the Joyful Notes Choir on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at the church.

The Joyful Notes Choir is open to all children, ages K-8th grade. Throughout the year we will prepare music to sing in worship, play games, have seasonal parties, and in May we will present the children's musical!

Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 4th at 4:00 p.m. on the second floor of the Admin/Music Building. Snacks are served by the playground from 3:45-4:00 p.m. each

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me.

Mrs. Groff, Director, Joyful Notes Choir, 408-395-9215, dcgroff@yahoo. com 📀

#### **Chancel Choir Rehearsals**

Chancel Choir rehearsals resume Thursday evening September 5 at 8 pm. The Choir is open to everyone. Come join the fun!

For more information or answers to your questions, contact Bill Coye at 408-268-2396 or wcoye1@gmail.com �

## **Sunrise Seekers - New Time**

The Sunrise Seekers group will start back up on Wednesday, September 18th after our summer break.

We are moving to a later start time, so that those of you who have said, "Yes, I'd love to come, but it's just too early," will be encouraged to join us. We will now meet at 8 am in the Library every first and third Wednesday.

Coffee is provided. All are welcome. Come and give this group a try. We will be studying Marcus Borg's "Reading the Bible again for the First Time: Taking the Bible seriously but not literally."

For more information contact Sue Edson at (408) 378-6349 or, sueedson@ pacbell.net 💠

## **Book Group Reminder**

The Book Group's first meeting of our 2013/14 year will be on Monday, September 23 from 4 – 5:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We meet on the fourth Monday of each month, with breaks for Christmas and other major holidays. At our first meeting we will be talking about books we have each been reading. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you have a book to present. Our reading is usually secular, but our discussions are informed by our shared

For more information contact Sue Edson at (408) 378-6349 or, sueedson@ pacbell.net 💠

#### **SAVE THE DATE!!**

Lifetouch Photo Directory Company will be at Campbell UMC in October, taking pictures for a new Church Pictoral Directory!!

Lifetouch will be on campus Wednesday-Saturday, October 2nd - 5th and Wednesday and Thursday, October 15th & 16th. If a lot of people sign up for pictures and more dates are needed, they will be added after the 16th. To make this successful, we also need volunteers to help with the directory process. Volunteers are needed on Sundays to sign people up for appointments, to call church members and remind them of appointments, and to host during the photo sessions. If you can help, please call the church office at (408) 378-3472.

## Starting the Journey --**New Member Class**

Come join our New Members Class, Starting the Journey. You will learn what



it means to join the journey with our faith community to love God, to grow strong and to serve others. You are invited to attend one of

the two sessions of the New Members Class. Saturday, September 21, at 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fireside Room; or Sunday, September 22, at 12 noon – 4 p.m., Fireside Room.

New Members will be received and recognized at the 9 am service on Sunday, September 29, with brunch to follow at noon. Please contact Suzanne Dougan or call 408-378-3472 in the Church Office for more information and the New Member Registration Form. 🧇

## 2013 Fall Ministry Fair

On Sunday, September 22, our church will hold its Fall Ministry Fair at 10 – 11 a.m. The purpose of our ministry fair is "to help people grow strong spiritually by finding a place to serve God and others."

Each of the ministry groups in the church are invited to participate in the Ministry Fair by hosting a table in the Fellowship Hall. If you are looking for volunteers to serve in your ministry team, you'll want to be there. Think of ways to make it exciting and festive your creativity is the limit. Use banners, lots of colors, balloons, streamers, food, or other elements that will create excitement for your ministry area. Each ministry group will be assigned a table. You can decorate it as lavishly as you want. Ministry Fair Setup Guidelines will be sent to each of the ministry teams.

If you are interested in exploring a new ministry for our church, why not gather and pray with a few people and see where God's Spirit leads you. Then speak to one of the ministry area leaders (Prayer and Worship

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## Rosemary School Snack Program

The saying, "All good things must come to an end," is not necessarily true. However, in the case of the Rosemary School Snack Program, it is true.

The Principal was able to start a pilot Breakfast program in April which was very successful. The program will be continued this coming school year. Therefore, our ministry of handing out snacks at recess came to an end on May 30, 2013.

On March 6, 2012 two volunteers from Campbell UMC went to Rosemary School and began handing out cereal bars to all children who wanted a snack at the two recesses. Since that time, we had two volunteers at the school every Tuesday and Thursday when school was in session.

As has been written in previous articles, this was a remarkable ministry. All of the volunteers felt that we received so much more than we gave.

Thank you so much to all of the volunteers who gave an hour out of their day several times during the time that this ministry took place. The volunteers were: Jane LaPierre, Helen (Jane's neighbor), Nan Caldwell, Lenora Blouin, Jan Mishler, Bob Herring, Lou Woodburycatcott, Sue Edson, Jack Hocker, Joyce Johnson, Heather Reynolds, Ellen Droke, Carol Griffith, Pat Irwin, Janice McClanahan, Melinda Knepp, Darlene Dyer, Grace Oliver, and Sue Foyle. Without the volunteers this ministry would not have existed.

Special thanks also go to the congregation -- thank you for your generous contributions whenever asked. You always gave from generous, giving hearts. Thank you also to the Van Sickle Endowment which honored the ministry with a grant, and to the United Methodist Women (UMW) who donated their proceeds from last year's membership tea.

Because of all the contributions the snack program received, we were able to donate a cereal bar to each student

prior to taking the STAR tests this past Spring. That was approximately 400

There are still a considerable amount of donations in the Rosemary School Snack Program fund. The Church and Society Committee has decided to donate the remaining funds to Rosemary School so they are able to purchase recess play equipment, classroom educational games, school uniforms for those children whose families cannot afford them, and snacks for those children who are unable to come early to school for breakfast.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with our neighbor, Rosemary School, and helping their students in need.

Submitted by Sue Foyle <

## **BACKPACK GIVEAWAY: A Heartwarming Experience**



Remember those first few weeks before school began and you got to go shopping for your supplies

-- pencils, paper, folders, and so forth? Those shopping trips signaled a new school year approaching, and it was often a time of excitement and high hopes for another new beginning in your young life.

Many children within our own communities don't have the opportunity to create those special memories. The cost of school supplies can really add up -- especially when you throw in a new backpack in which to carry those supplies. Providing these school staples can create an economic burden on families struggling to put food on their tables.

Realizing all children should have the same opportunities to start their school year off on a positive note, Assemblymember Paul Fong and Campbell Mayor Evan Low decided to sponsor a backpack drive for elementary and middle-school students within the Campbell and Moreland school districts. Their goal was to select 100 of the neediest children within the two districts to receive a backpack and school supplies. Due to a lack of funds, the elected officials reached out to several organizations, including Campbell United Methodist Church.

Pastor Paul Kim broached the idea of what the church could do to help and the Church & Society Committee enthusiastically ran with the idea. Committee member Gail Jacobs approached Robson Homes, who agreed to provide funding for 50 backpacks and a variety of supplies. The call went out to the congregation to help fill the backpacks on a Sunday after service, and many people, young and the young-at-heart, participated in filling the 50 backpacks in less than an

Present at the backpack distribution event held at Capri Elementary were Pastor Paul Kim, Christie Kim, Sue Foyle, Lou Woodburycatcott, and Gail Jacobs. Campbell UMC and seven other organizations managed to exceed the original goal of 100 backpacks and ended up distributing 225 packs to the excited neighborhood children! Providing essential supplies to these deserving children helped give them the tools for success and let them know that people care about them and believe in them. In an interview, Assemblymember Fong said, "This is just one example of the impact we can make as a community when we come together to support our students and their families."



One highlight of the event was seeing the light in the children's eyes as they got to select which backpack they wanted, with several picking one only to change their minds a few minutes later and pick a different one. But perhaps one of the most heartwarming and lingering images was seeing one family

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## In the COMMUNIT

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#### BACKPACK GIVEAWAY

walking back to their home, with three young children each proudly wearing their brand new backpack filled with a plethora of supplies. They had a spring in their step, as young children do, and a hint of that excitement and hope that comes with a new school year; and once again, we were reminded that the blessing is in the giving.

Thanks to everyone who helped pack backpacks. You can read more about the event in the Campbell Patch (http:// campbell.patch.com/groups/backto-school/p/225-campbell-studentsreceive-new-backpacks)



Gail Jacobs, Church & Society �

## You are Invited!

## **Special Interfaith Community Event** September 22



Church & Society is pleased to invite you to participate in an Interfaith Community Activity with Stop Hunger Now. The event will be held at Campbell United Methodist Church on Sunday, September 22, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

As many of you may be aware, Campbell UMC has hosted an interfaith dinner on September 11th to celebrate our common humanity as an antidote to the fear, suspicion and negativity which have marked our relations with the Muslim community. Based on suggestions offered at last year's event,

we wanted to refocus this annual event and create an activity in which we could all work together and address a common need.

To that end, we have organized the Stop Hunger Now event to give both communities an opportunity to be involved in a hands-on project that will help the hungry in the Third World. We see this as a model of the kinds of things that our two faith communities can do to improve the planet.

Please mark the date on your calendar. We expect this event to be fulfilling, inspiring and fun.

Franklin Bondonno, Church & Society 🧇

## SAVE THE DATE FOR TRANSFORMATION!



On Wednesday, October 9, 2013, the Superior Court of California, Santa Clara County will host the opening of TRANSFORMATION: Art from Within. The exhibit displays the work done by Elmwood inmates

over the past two years with the Art & Spirit Ministry team at Campbell UMC. These creative and meaningful works are presented by the Court, the Office of the Sheriff, and CIC Ministries, under whose auspices we serve.

The exhibit will be held at the Hall of Justice, 190 West Hedding, San Jose from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Free parking is available. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

Elaine Bondonno, Art & Spirit Ministry 💠

## CARTOON CORNER



Methodist C.o.n.n.e.c.t.i.o.n

## **United Methodist Women**

## **BOOK REVIEW BY SUSAN JONES**



How Coffee Saved My Life by Ellie Roscher

Category: Education for Mission

Pages: 159 Rating: \*\*\* stars

At the age of 25, Ellie, the author of the book, decides to spend a year in Uruguay. Ellie is from a somewhat rich family here in the United States and wants to know how the poor live in Uruguay. Unfortunately, she goes unprepared to Lasano, Uruguay. She could not speak the language, and was not prepared for the type of food they ate. Hence, the unpreparedness for the food gives way to the title. Her book tells of her struggles with feeling lonely and the poverty she experienced in Uruguay.

Stephen J. Nelson, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Global Mission, states in his review of the book that Ellie gives an engaging account told with candor, honesty, and good measure of earthiness. I must say, I agree.

This book is a good read if you are planning to experience cross-cultural ministry. Susan Jones 📀

## <u>HISTORY HELPERS</u>

"snippets from our past"

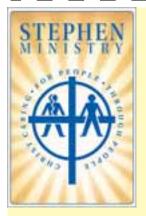
## Answer to the August Challenge

Did you recognize the handsome bearded gentleman pictured in the August Challenge? You did? You knew that it was the Reverend G. W. Beatty, minister of the Los Gatos Methodist Church, who organized the Class of 12 in Campbell in 1888. Great! You can help us write our history.

What? You had no idea who the bearded guy was? But you wondered. Great! You can help us write our history.

Our hope is that several people will each write about an aspect of our church history, especially covering the past 25 years. We want to include projects, organizations, mission and outreach, education, worship, music, youth activities, and some of the people who have been instrumental in our development. The historical panel now hanging in the Sanctuary was pictured in the August "Connections". It covers the period of 1989 to 2013, and lists "SCHANTZ ORGAN, Reconciling, and A-M-Y BUILDING". These are only three examples of topics we want to include. We also need a few people to help edit and organize the stories.

Please contact Susan Sargent at 408 378-1232, or at hrhiker@aol.com, or at coffee hour on Sunday. She will be the one with the expectant and hopeful look searching for folks to help us write our history. �



#### Pastors want to provide care to everyone who needs it

- but they cannot do it alone. Equipping laypeople to minister to hurting people is a highly effective - and biblical - way to ensure that people in need of care receive it.

Christ at work in and through gifted, trained lay caregivers - that's the Stephen Ministry vision!

FOR ALL CAREGIVERS & PEOPLE INTERESTED IN CAREGIVING at CAMPBELL UMC:

STEPHEN MINISTRY Introductory Workshop on: Saturday, September 14, 2013, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)

Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025

#### The workshop will cover:

- 1) Ministering to those experiencing grief
- 2) An introduction to Stephen Ministry
- 3) How to care in a Distinctively Christian Way

Who should attend: Pastors and church staff; lay leaders, caregivers and caregiving teams, ALL folk who are interested in helping with the CareGiving ministry at Campbell UMC. Campbell UMC will cover the registration cost for attendees.

If you wish to participate in this workshop, please contact Claudia Slayman by September 5, 2013; at claudia.slayman@gmail.com or call the Church Office and leave a message at 378-3472 x23.

It will be wonderful to grow this ministry at Campbell United!

Claudia Slayman 💠



There are so many ways to show someone that you care: a kind word, written or spoken; a call or visit. Jesus set such an example for us, as he spoke to, fed, touched, reached out to people who were sad, lonely, forgotten.

Caregiving is not just for pastors and lay leaders and staff of a church. There are many within our church community who regularly call and visit with others in the church; people who make hospital visits without being asked to do so. There are folks who regularly take others out to lunch during the week or on Sunday after worship. There are folk who have never worn a "CareGiver" badge who have driven others to doctor's appointments or grocery shopping. These can be people of any age! I recently heard of a time when Delmar Shepherd sang a song for someone who was hospitalized, just to cheer them up. Similarly, Craig Shepherd, a wonderful artist, drew a comic strip about someone rarin' to get out of the hospital ~ it made the patient laugh, and lifted his spirits.

How can I help, you ask?

Smile at someone on Sunday; greet newcomers when you see them! Ask their names and remember them for next Sunday! Tell them about Fellowship Time and walk with them to the Fellowship Hall; introduce them to others - also greet those who are standing alone! Don't be afraid to reach out to others to show them that you care. Think of ways that we as a church can be more caring, and please share your ideas with me! Call me (378-3472 x23), send me a message (claudia. slayman@gmail.com), or drop a note in the CareGiving Mailbox in the Church

Claudia Slayman 💠

## Circuit Writer



Where Have We Met Jesus? Rev. Larry LaPierre

Very few people I know would admit to meeting Jesus. Frankly, in the sense of seeing Jesus as I imagine he might have appeared to his disciples, I haven't seen him either. But I have met him. I met Jesus as a child in the bread and wine at Communion. I continue to meet Jesus in this way as well as in other personal encounters.

One of them happened about a month ago when I was riding my electric scooter in Campbell. What did Jesus look like? Well, he was a man around my age (early 70s). He seemed guite thin, as if he had not eaten in months. His steps were almost too small to measure. It seemed as if he might be looking at something beyond the traffic. I've seen that look in visits as a chaplain with people who were dying.

What did I say to him? I didn't say anything. We were on opposite sides of a traffic crossing, and when the light changed I moved forward cautiously so as not to get in his way. A conversation while crossing the street would have been dangerous for both of us, and my voice has weakened enough that I certainly could not have been heard over the traffic noises anyway.

How did I know it was Jesus? It was because of the haunting words I have read so often in Matthew 25:31-46: "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." (vs. 45) Did I fail to honor the Christ in this man? No. I knew that it was Jesus in him calling out to me. In fact, I don't believe that a person of faith can see another person suffering and not see Christ in that person and hear Christ calling us to love him or her. Although I could do nothing physically to help him, I did pray for him. I asked God to bring him people to love and help him as he died.

Is it ever difficult to recognize Jesus in another person? There are times

when it can be. I've failed to recognize our Lord in people when I was angry and when I was anxious. It can be difficult to remember that Jesus is in another person who seems to want to hurt us. It's even difficult to recognize Jesus in a person who speaks a different language than we do or has a physical appearance unlike ours. It helps when I wear a cross. If I touch it, even unconsciously, I remember that Christ loves us in our differences.

When we recognize Christ in another person, we could thank God for the grace to do so. We can do it while walking, sitting or even while at a STOP sign. It's probably not wise to pray for very long when we are actually driving. We might not get to work or to church if we tried that. However, we can say a brief blessing for many of the people we meet each day. At least some of them need help to cope with the pressures, losses and other forms of suffering they are experiencing. We all need God's blessing, and most of us can thank God for being in us and in each person we meet today.

Rev. Larry LaPierre 🧇



Ministries, Community and Missions Ministries, Communications Ministry, Youth Ministry, Caring Ministry, Family Ministry, Office Support Ministries) about ways to promote the new ministry in the church. <a> </a>

## Nastor's Nen

continued from p.2

the time to ask! Meet another volunteer who's already involved. Learn what's needed and how you can participate.

If you have a new ministry idea or suggestion, by all means speak with me or one of the ministry area leaders. If you are excited and passionate, there will be others.

Well, it looks like it won't be just our kids who will be going back to school to learn the basics. Let me invite you to our School of the Spirit, to grow strong spiritually and to learn again the basics of the servant leadership of our Lord Jesus.

Peace. Pastor Paul 💠



## Campbell UMC Financial Update - through July, 2013

With 7 months of the year gone, Campbell UMC income is running almost right on budget. We are only \$877 behind, which is really good! Our pledge income is ahead of budget, and we've had good fundraising income, which has helped offset lowerthan-expected non-pledge income.

Total expenses are running a little lower than budget for the year, thanks to some Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) savings.

While all of this is good news, remember that we had a very bare-bones budget this year. We are paying minimal apportionments. However, we are grateful to be meeting our expenses, and paying any amount for apportionments after several years of paying none. Thank you to all who enable CUMC's ministry by your faithful

Barbara Wade, Treasurer 💠

TOTAL INCOME YTD		PLEDGES YTD		NON-PLEDGES YTD	
Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual
\$285,410	\$284,533	\$197,500	\$200,792	\$44,000	\$37,604

TOTAL EXPENSES YTD		
Budgeted	Actual	
\$293,438	\$282,567	

## - Working Wonders! Wednesday Wonder Workers



There are many unsung heroes at Campbell United Methodist Church. But there is one group that very rarely calls attention to themselves or their good actions. They are the Wednesday Wonder Workers (WWW). Now in their 20th year, this group of men and women take care of things that the rest of us take for granted and would most likely only notice if these good deeds were not done.

Bob Powell, Bill Eshnaur, Jim Laflin and Bob Renfer were men of vision. They could see what many others didn't - bushes needing pruning, sprinklers needing fixing, basic "handyman" types of jobs that we do around our own homes. A congregation member for more than 50 years, Bob Renfer recalls that the WWW came together rather informally. "We were task-oriented and recognized that somebody had to do these little things that weren't consistently being done on an orderly basis. There are always a multitude of tasks on a campus this size and somebody needs to do them or they simply don't get done."

These men didn't create an action item list or a formal committee that needed to meet to decide what to do.



Instead, they would sit down, have a cup of coffee. and say, "Well,

can you make it next Wednesday?" After several months, somebody suggested they ought to have a name. Bill Eshnaur came up with the Wednesday Wonder Workers. They liked it, and it stuck!

In the early years, as many as 20 people would meet for breakfast before tackling the work ahead of them. Although some of the people have moved on, their mission hasn't changed – what is the order of the day? What needs to get done?

Each week, office administrator Barbara Wade turns over a list of tasks compiled from the staff, the preschool, or from church members. From replacing the light bulbs to digging out a dead bush; from sweeping and picking up trash to hanging the banners on the sanctuary walls – each week brings a new list that never seems to get quite completed. These volunteer workers certainly don't need to worry about job security!

Barbara states, "The Wonder Workers are the heart and soul of ministry, exemplifying the best of service and fellowship. They do so much around the church, saving the staff and the church many administrative and maintenance hours and dollars. Without them, you wouldn't be reading this newsletter! The grounds wouldn't look as good, and we would have higher repair expenses. They do every task with grace and goodwill and without seeking attention or reward. They truly work wonders. Campbell UMC is very blessed to have such great volunteers."

The WWW consisted of only men when they began. However, as Bob Renfer is quick to note, "We were very open to equal opportunity and having the women work alongside us!" And the women soon did join in but tended to gravitate towards giving the sanctuary a special cleaning and straightening up, creating order out of the kitchen, and helping assemble, label, and mail the newsletter which was going out twice a month at the time. Even at 94, Ruth Maudlin continues to help arrange and stock the materials in the back of the

Throughout the years, these workers have been a real blessing to the church, with each offering their own special talents. Among the noteworthy tasks the team has taken on are the church grounds. Dave Sargent has

been instrumental in taking care of the landscaping, with Jim Laflin as his primary assistant. Ray Dyer became aware of the rotting boards in the walkways and singlehandedly got down on his hands and knees to take on that large project and replace the boards.

After the new AMY (Administration, Music, Youth) building was complete, none of the six water faucets were functioning. Bob Renfer called the faucet company and they sent him the parts. With instructions in hand, Bob proceeded to repair each and every faucet.

The work accomplished by the WWW is important and benefits us all. But it is also part of the spiritual journey for the workers. "I think I would speak for most of the folks," says Bob, "in that we feel we want to make this a welcoming church; not only for the regular members, but



also for visitors who are coming for the first time. We don't want a campus that is littered with trash, with the weeds taking over and the water fountains not working. We try to see it from their perspective, and the physical aspects of the church are a part of creating a welcoming environment."

With any group that works together, deep friendships form and the workers enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship that naturally develops, whether they're at breakfast, working on their tasks, or taking their coffee break midway through their Wednesday activities. And unlike so many work projects, the results are tangible. "We're accomplishing something," says Bob. "I get a personal



sense of satisfaction knowing I did my little bit. I didn't come down and work all day, but I did get that water fountain fixed, and I'm sure we all feel that way. Although some days it seems like I ran around and didn't get a single thing done, I'll be back next Wednesday!"

The WWW might want to add a few extra "W's" to their name, because they are the "Welcoming" Wednesday

Wonder Workers, and they are truly Wonderful!

If you have the time and the desire to be a Wednesday Wonder Worker, iust show up! The bulletin addendum lists when and where they'll meet for breakfast at 8:00 a.m., but you can also show up at the church at 9:00. You don't have to be an electrician or a plumber. You might just be handy or want to pick up trash, sweep up limbs after a windstorm or help in the office; the tasks are varied and there is something for everyone.

For more information (or just to say a word of thanks), here are some of the Wednesday Wonder Workers: Bill Adams, Phil Anderson, Carolyn Buehner, Ray Dyer, Barbara Faraone, Al and Nancy Friebel, Larry Griffith, Dick Hamp, Gene



Hill, Marilyn Hunsicker, Jean Kiskadden, Linda Kropf, Jim Laflin, Janice McClanahan, Ruth Mauldin, Pat Olson, Bob and Betty Renfer, Karen Palmer, Dave Sargent, and Muriel Scott.

Thank you all!

Gail Jacobs, Communications Team

### Pastor Paul's 2013 Fall Sermon Series

### **September Theme:** Back to School - A Spirituality for the Class of 2025

*Our children starting first grade this* fall will graduate high school in the year 2025. What kind of a world awaits them? As they study to live in a new world of the future, how will we equip them as far as their souls are concerned? As a church, how will we show them in practical ways that loving God, growing strong and serving others will help them to find themselves and change the world?

9/8: The Cost of Excellence 9/15: 99>1

9/22: Your Money or Your Life

9/29: A Resume for Heaven

### October Theme: Christians in the World - A Faith for **Global Citizens**

Our Christian faith is a global faith. How can we practice our faith in a multi-religious, multi-cultural world? There are now more Christians outside the "Western" world, and our neighbors believe in other gods. How does that change what we believe and how we behave? What values hold all Christians together?

10/6: Our Duty to the World 10/13: What Children Teach Us About

10/20: How Can We Change the World?

10/27: What the Church Confesses Today

## **November Theme:** Christian Academy 1 - Exposing Our **Christian Lingo**

Do people know what we mean when we say, "Jesus saves!"? What do you mean when you tell people, "Jesus died for your sins"? What do people hear when we throw such Christian terms around? Does it sound like a foreign language? Do the people of our society need interpreters and translators – to understand our Christian lingo? Let's tackle some of our favorite terms and see how we can best translate them for our non-churched neighbors.

11/3: Jesus Saves: At Which Bank? 11/10: The Product We Sell - Heaven 11/17: Why Jesus Won't Show Up For the Rapture

11/24: The Executed God - the Death of Jesus

### **December Theme:** What I Want For Christmas - The Hopes of the World's People

What are we looking for this Christmas? In "O Little Town of Bethlehem," we will sing, "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight." What fears, what hopes do we bring this Christmas? 600 years before Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the Prophet Isaiah powerfully expressed some of the deepest longings of humanity. May his dreams and ours come true for all God's children this Christmas.

12/1: Wanted: A People Untrained for War

12/8: Wanted: A World Without

12/15: Wanted: Mother Earth In Harmony

12/22: Wanted: A God With Me

12/24: Wanted: A World Led by Love 12/29: Wanted: Spiritually Rich

People

12/31: Wanted: Heaven On Earth



On August 10, 2013, ten youth and three adults from Campbell UMC and New Creations UMC returned from a week in Susanville where they participated in the Sierra Service

Project (SSP). You know they had a successful trip when after a week of hard work their first words upon arrival were "can we do it again next year?"

This group, along with youth and counselors from two other churches, painted, built a deck, worked on fences and did whatever else was needed at the Susanville Rancharia. Not only did they work on building structures, but they also built relationships with each other and with God. How amazing is that?

So thank you, Bodie Knepp, Chandra Couzens, Erica Adams, Erin Norris, Jack DeHority, Jack Hallinan, Jordan Aspiras, Kenny Chong, Matthew Michel, and Skyler Song for all the hard work and willingness to serve. Also, thank you to Alex Hardt, Pat Irwin and Robert Michel for not only being the drivers, but also for working alongside these youth.

Here are a few thoughts from those who participated:

## SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT 2013

## **Thoughts from Campbell and New Creation UMYF**

"If you were to describe SSP, it would have to be awesome. The SSP staff planned a day for us so that we would work hard and then have fun at the end of the day. We painted houses, built decks, ramps, and made stairs. It felt good to make new friends and serve others at the same time. After this week, all of the people who went to SSP took a step closer to God. Thank you CUMC for helping us get there and back safely." ~ Matthew

"From serving those in the Susanville community to serving each other, SSP helped me become closer to God and the other campers. It's pretty unbelievable how I built lifelong friendships in one week, when most of my friendships have taken YEARS to build." ~ Jordan

"Each visit to SSP yields friendships and spiritual connections that could rarely be achieved in daily life. I am so thankful that the CUMC, and most of all, Jennifer Norris and Melinda Knepp, have given me this fantastic opportunity to serve others in the best possible way." ~ Erica

"Thank you to my CUMC family for making this SSP trip possible. I was so thankful to meet new people and to get closer to God. It felt great to serve this community in Susanville, CA. I will always remember this experience." ~ Erin 10 Conhections

"I had a good time at the Sierra Service Project. It was great meeting new people and making new friends. It was fun and challenging trying to build a deck and stairs, which was the project assigned to me during my time there. There was a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction when it was finally finished." ~ Kenny

"I embarked on my journey to SSP viewing myself as the knight in shining armor, graciously sacrificing my time to aid a community that needed my help. My false predisposition was quickly squashed the moment I arrived. Surrounded by multitudes of others just as willing to sacrifice their summer to help others, I felt less significant and even a bit foolish. It wasn't until SSP truly started when I learned the true meaning of 'to serve'. SSP wasn't a journey to better a community, but rather an opportunity to sculpt myself. One of the most important lessons I learned at SSP was that serving isn't a time of sacrifice to help someone in need; instead, it's an opportunity to spread the love of God. SSP surely opened my eyes to the meaning of God's love and gave me a sense of humility when serving others. The week I spent in Susanville wasn't merely a week of building a deck for a family who greatly appreciated it, but it was a health clinic for my spiritual and intellectual self. I'll always remember to just love and just serve." ~ Skyler

"My experience at SSP was good enough to make me come back. You are very nice to accept me into what you guys were doing. It was scary at first but I got through it because of you. Thanks and God bless." ~ Jack D.

"This was my very first year at SSP, and I really enjoyed the chance to meet new people from other churches, hang out with some from our church, and help the people of Susanville. It is an experience that I will never forget." ~ Bodie



"To be honest coming into this camp I was feeling the nauseating effects of an overloaded work schedule. Mv initial thoughts were filled with stress and exhaustion and upon arrival my attention quickly centered around finishing the massive projects that

had been started 6 weeks earlier by other groups, but what I soon discovered was that the relationships developed were far greater than any deck or shed we built. We heard about a man who discovered new life in Christ when he moved out here, how men and women's lives were changed because of the cross, and how God spoke to those searching for something greater. We witnessed acts of courage, radical displays of grace, sacrificial love, and an unstoppable joy. God spoke at SSP in wondrous ways and what I walked away with was far greater than I ever expected." ~ Alex

"Thanks for everyone who helped us to take part in this year's SSP trip. Not only did you help us to branch out towards other communities, but you helped us to go to a place where people needed our help and have fun working with them. Thank you CUMC." ~ Jack H.

Melinda Knepp, Youth Coordinator



## SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT 2013 Thoughts from Pat Irwin, driver

What a crazy week this last week has been with the high school students at the Sierra Service Project located in northern California at Susanville. We learned that it is a two-prison town – one a maximum security and the other a "normal" security place. Susanville is a small community with basically two types of people: (1) people who work at the prison, and (2) people who have loved ones in jail. Whew.

Yet, what a beautiful place it seems to be – quiet, "magical," away from the wild crazy rush of loud buses, trains, cars, rap music, signs that glitter, noises from many voices ... and instead, rolling hills of the high desert, roaming deer with their young, cars traveling slowly from here to there, other cars parked, a person waking, a person in a wheelchair, an old man, a woman with a baby, a quiet dog on a leash, a person waiting for the daily-free-bus to leave for Redding.

But underneath, men and women go home from work and do not talk, or share about their job within the jail. Sirens of police cars roaring loudly at night warning us someone has broken out of jail, or someone is deathly sick, or someone who should be at home on parole is not there and there is need to find them. Poverty and joblessness reeks in every direction. However, there is an organization called "Crossroads" trying to meet the needs of the harsh and unforgiving community. Through them, miracles do happen and happy endings to sad stories do happen here in Susanville, CA. Other miracles happen as well and that is where the Sierra Service Project comes in.

The SSP (Sierra Service Project) donates freely, with open hearts and hands all the materials, labor, and craftsmanship to people who let the organization know what is needed – be it a deck or a ramp for a wheelchair or painting of a house or a building or making fences or making cement to create a cement pad or for posts, or just picking up garbage. All done by high school students with the help of untrained adults like myself under the guidance of a craftsman's watchful eyes. We all learned to serve in a manner we were not accustomed to – building or improving or creating something that was needed for someone in Susanville.

It is interesting; the goal of SSP is not necessarily to build and create for others as a service but rather that the youth build their relationships and have a good time ... while in the process of serving others. Curious isn't it?

My team worked on building a ramp for a Native American woman in a wheelchair. I met her. She spoke to me. I was told she hadn't talked with anyone from the beginning of the 5 weeks of student and adult volunteer workers. The ice was now broken. She was friendly and invited us to a gathering on Sunday, which of course we were not able to attend.

I'm exhausted from trying to fit into a world I don't belong: the world of Teenagers. Good grief they laugh at anything for no logical reason! What a crazy world they are in. Surely I wasn't that "crazy!" Surely I wasn't that "insane or so loud!" Ahhhhhh, but trust me, there were many who were brilliant, gifted in many different ways and many had moments to share their gifts and talents. They had a most wonderful time! Yes, there were the quiet ones but even they were brought into the Life of Teenagers. They love life! They laughed, joked, teased, supported each other, helped strangers, thought deep thoughts and inspired me, created their own miracles in friendship and made things happen. It was exciting!

Whew

I am glad to be home but if I had to do it all over again, I would in a heart beat!

(Only this time I might try to listen to current SSP acceptable music and try to be aware of some of the current trends!!) But then again, maybe not!! I had a wonderful time.





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Providing loving, welcoming community
- for Christ and the world.





To all members of my beloved CUMC,

Words cannot truly express my deep appreciation for all the beautiful birthday cards I received on my 101<sup>st</sup>!! However, I'll say them anyway - THANK YOU! and God Bless.

**Evelyn Buck** 



### Grief and hope -

It's hard to believe that it's been 8 years since my husband, Gene passed away of a sudden heart attack. For me, it's a daily remembrance and at that time, I was in a state of shock for about a year. I received many cards and remembrances that I kept in a box for all these years, wondering if I would read them again. I read them at the time, but things were not registering. A few days ago, I decided that it's time. I should see how it is to remember.

I was first touched by the shock of anguished friends. I didn't realize that everyone shared my distress. And they tried to find the words to say; wanting to say something helpful and consoling. Some wrote notes and others signed their names. Many carefully selected a card with appropriate and beautiful words. I found caring and support in both.

In a recent Sunday service, we acknowledged the Congregational Care group but a few of us chatting afterwards thought that more in the congregation could stand up as well. How true. You all cared for me when you sent me cards and prayed for me. You are helping me today. Healing takes time, prayers and friendship, which bring hope. I thank God for you and these gifts you have given. They have provided solid ground for me on which to stand and go forward.

Helen Hayashi