

Campbell



CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER, 2013



Celebrate World Communion Sunday

**October 6, 2013
at 10 a.m.**

Begun in 1936, World Communion Sunday takes on special meaning this year as Campbell United Methodist Church celebrates its 125th Anniversary. In 1888, the world was a much larger place. On August 5, 1888, Berta Benz drove 40 miles from Mannheim to Pforzheim in a car manufactured by her husband Karl Benz. This was the first "long-distance" drive in the history of the automobile. Today, the world is a global village, where people travel tens of thousands of miles to spend their weekends or vacation in another part of the world, and where the news of events in one part of the world are known almost instantaneously in another part of the world. However, fear still divides the peoples of God's Earth. For 77 years since 1936, the Christian churches around the world have gathered to celebrate our oneness in Christ, the Prince of Peace. We reaffirm that we are called to serve the Prince of Peace in the midst of the world ever more in need of peacemaking.

In this year's service, our children will present breads made from around the world – from the countries of their grandparents and more distant ancestors – in recognizing our diversity and global roots. Later in the service, the traditional percussion music of Korean farmers will help magnify our commitment to the common good. EGO, UC Berkeley's Korean Traditional Percussion Group (a traveling team will be performing) will accompany the singing of our final hymn and then lead us into the courtyard for a live performance of drumming and dancing. EGO will be performing samulnori, drumming of four instruments – the large gong, the small gong, the hourglass drum, and the drum. For a preview of their sight and sound, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUweid3ohS4> & http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IMjEgvEv8Q

*Come and be inspired! Let your heartbeat feel the heartbeat of the world!
Share the heart! Share the world!*

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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



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

Stewardship

"All the church talks about is money." Or "The church needs to focus on spiritual matters, not on money matters." You've probably heard these sentiments somewhere or maybe thought them yourself.

In early September, National Public Radio (NPR) and public radio stations around the country started their annual fall fundraising campaign. Most listeners are willing to listen to the donation pitches or make pledges or give gifts because they consider the information and programming they receive as beneficial. Programs like "Fresh Air with Terry Gross" or "This American Life with Ira Glass" or "Car Talk With Click and Clack" or "Science Friday with Ira Flatow" have a large base of followers and supporters. Listeners give because they are happy with the services they receive. When a listener calls in with her pledge amount and gives a passionate reason as to why she gives, you can hear the phones ringing loudly in the background in the studio. People give because they are happy with the services and the information they receive.

Sometimes, the church is tempted to act like public radio stations when it comes to the annual stewardship campaign in the fall. We try so hard to convince people that our church is doing really worthwhile work (followed by a substantial laundry list of activities and programs). Because if we can convince them how much we've done, then they will help support the church to continue doing its good works. But there is a big difference between NPR and the church of Jesus Christ. While NPR airwaves are filled with the superlative voices, ideas, and creativity of phenomenal people like Terry, Ira, and Click & Clack, the church doesn't revolve around leaders or paid staff to attract, entertain, inform or serve. Rather, what really matters is how well all the disciples of Jesus Christ – the members sitting in the pews – connect what they say on Sunday with how they live that profession in their daily life starting on Monday.

Stewardship is not about our annual financial pledge drive or about meeting our budget. Being "stewards" is about our whole relationship with God. Someone has said that the word "steward" may be the best word to describe our life with God.

Free Dictionary defines stewardship as:

1. One who manages another's property, finances, or other affairs.

2. One who is in charge of the household affairs of a large estate, club, hotel, or resort.

The secular world understands stewardship so well. In fact, everyone knows when people talk about environmental stewardship. Stewardship is now generally recognized as the acceptance or assignment of responsibility to shepherd and safeguard the valuables of others.

Psalms 24:1 says "The Earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it."

That's where stewardship begins. The Bible teaches that whatever we have – from our cars and possessions to family and friends to nature and time – belongs to God. We hold these temporarily in our hands – gifts on loan from God to us. This is the first and last lesson in stewardship.

Our Fall Financial Campaign is about learning this truth once more. Growing spiritually means to see everything as a gift from God, and realize that we actually don't "own" or "possess" anything of value. They are divine gifts. Our stewardship campaign is about recognizing these gifts and that with these gifts come the responsibility to "shepherd and safeguard" these gifts, to use them for their rightful purposes.

Take a look around your life and our church. Hasn't God been gracious and generous, gifting us with time, treasures and talents (abilities) and a caring community on top of that? And having made us the stewards of these good things, God now invites us to become co-workers and co-creators with God. In Jesus, we learn that whatever God is doing in the world, God has chosen not to do it alone. So John Wesley said: "Do all the

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On the CAMPUS



125th Anniversary CHURCH DIRECTORY

In celebration of our 125th year, we are producing a new

picture directory in conjunction with LifeTouch Directories!! Photo sessions will be **Wednesday-Friday, October 2nd – 4th, from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.;** **Saturday, October 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;** and **Tuesday-Wednesday, October 15th & 16th, from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** If these sessions fill up, additional sessions will be scheduled.

Every family who has a picture taken will get a free photo and a free copy of the finished directory. If you wish, you may choose to purchase additional family photos, but no purchase is necessary to be in the directory!

Make your photo appointment now by going to (copy and paste into your browser window) <https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/campbellunitedmethodistchurch1/index.php?page=10>

When you sign up online, you will receive a coupon good for \$10 off a photo purchase, should you choose to purchase photos.

You can also sign up on Sunday mornings at church, or by calling the church office at 408-378-3472. If you don't have access to a computer, the church office can schedule your appointment for you.

Make this a celebration year to remember – we'd like to have as many families as possible participate.

Hosts are needed to serve a 3-4 hour shift during the photo sessions. Please call the church office if you are willing to help. Thank you!! ❖

Living Trusts

A **trust** is an agreement under which money or other assets are held

and managed by a trustee (one or more persons or it can be a bank or other corporation) for the benefit of a beneficiary (can be another person or the creator of the trust). Different types of trusts may be created to accomplish specific goals. Each kind may vary in the degree of flexibility and control it offers.

Living trusts are created during the lifetime of the trustor (the person creating a trust and signing it; trustor is also referred to as grantor or settler). The duration of a living trust is determined at the trust's terms and can entail the distribution of assets to the beneficiaries during or after the trustor's lifetime. Typically a living trust is created to avoid probate, manage estates tax exposure, avoid a conservatorship upon incapacity, and /or plan for a successor beneficiary's inability or unwillingness to manage the assets personally upon the death of the trustor. Property held in a living trust is not normally subject to probate (the review or testing of a will before a court of law to ensure that the will is authentic and supervises the transfer of property on the death of a person whose assets are in their own name). Living trusts have become popular as a method to avoid probate. To avoid probate, the trust must be funded. This means that title to the assets which the trustor owns personally must be actually transferred to the trust -- real property as bonds, partnership interests and other holdings are assigned or transferred to the trust. Typically this would read as follows: Mary Smith, Trustee of the Smith Living Trust dated January 1, 2013. In the most common living trust situations the trustor is usually the trustee and beneficiary of the trust during his or her lifetime. The successor trustee takes over upon the trustor's death or incapacity.

~ The Endowment Committee ❖

Pastor's Pen

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good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can." *There is something good left for each of us to do.*

This year, remember who you are – stewards of God's good gifts - when you receive that letter from the Stewardship Campaign. You are being invited again to recognize the highest honor God has placed on human beings - to be caretakers of all the divine gifts on Earth and grow strong as co-creators of all that is good, all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise (Philippians 4:8). Thank you in advance for your faithful service to God and our good Earth and its peoples as joint-stewards in Christ.

*Peace,
Pastor Paul*

Remember Stewardship Commitment Sunday, October 20, 2013, 10 am ❖

In the COMMUNITY

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 ❖

Methodist Connection

United Methodist Women

Tea Party



Teatime

The **7th Annual United Methodist Women's Tea** will be held on **Sunday, October 13, 2013**, from as soon as church is out to 2 pm, in the fellowship Hall. **ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME.** Whether you belong to a Circle or not, we want you to be our guest for a lovely lunch, lively discussion, and learn how UMW is supporting our community.

This year our speaker, Susan Runsvold, will be speaking about *Turning Wheels for Kids*. Ms. Runsvold is the founder of Turning Wheels and has a wonderful story to tell. You won't want to miss her exciting talk. Turning Wheels will also be the beneficiary of the proceeds from our baskets this year.

To this end, beautiful baskets with enticing treasures will be available for you to peruse and drool over with the hopes that you might even take one home by way of your charitable donation. Just by attending, you will be entered in our door prize opportunity.

So plan on an entertaining luncheon and join us for some great fun. We want to show our women how important they are to us. It is very important that you **RSVP to Carla Twilleager, 408-307-0847, or sign up in the church courtyard on Sunday morning no later than Sunday, 29 October 2013.** If we don't have your name, we won't have a place for you at the tea, and we wouldn't want to miss you on such an important afternoon.

You will be warmly welcomed. Hope to see you soon.

BOOK REVIEW BY SUSAN JONES

***Rubble Nation – Haiti's Pain, Haiti's Promise* by Chris Herlinger & Paul Jeffrey**

Category: Education for Mission

Pages: 141

Rating: ****stars



"Lepwa Fe Viv," (Hope Keeps one alive.) –Haitian proverb.

It is hard to say where to start with the review of this book. The story Chris and Paul tell about Haiti after the 2010 earthquake, will bring alive in you many emotions; anger, sadness, hopefulness and wonderment. Wonderment—how these people have endured all that has happened to them and what little has been given to them.

Of the 141 pages, 71 of them are pictures. These pictures really say it all. The first picture you will see is of little girl. She brings a smile to your face because she has a beautiful smile on her face. She is also wearing a Superman t-shirt. How cute is that! The next picture is one of those "aw, how sweet" two little girls with their arms around each other walking to school. The other pictures will grab you, but in a different way. Men, women and children working hard to survive; pictures of the earthquake; NGO groups (Non Government Organizations) helping and of medical staff caring for people with cholera and HIV and just the results of everyday living. The last picture is of a man and his daughter in a camp for quake survivors in Jacmel.

I want to leave you with this excerpt from the book.

Will I ever again be able to say, "I'm home?" To understand the overall frustration, it helps to understand the context. When people's homes came crashing down, survivors lost not only family members, friends, and most material possession, but also their sense of security. In its place, came terrifying questions: will I ever have a home again? Do I dare send my child back into a still-standing school building? When—if ever—can I return to work? Will there be work? What do I do for a living—to feed the family right now—and in ten months from now? How will we find proper shelter during the rainy season? Will I ever again be able to close a door behind me and say, "I'm home?"

Is there a happy ending to this story? Not yet, but with people like Chris Herlinger and Paul Jeffrey who work for Church World Services, and the faith the people of Haiti have in God, Good things will happen... a day at a time.

Susan Jones ❖

ROCK-A-BYE BABY

There are going to be a bunch of very happy babies at Valley Medical Center of Santa Clara and UMCOR. This year's Layette Drive was very successful and thank you to everyone involved.

We were able to complete 50 full layette kits for Valley Med. Included in each kit were one sleeper or night gown, one sweater and hat or jacket with attached hood, two receiving blankets, two onesies, one blanket and, thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we were able to include about 13 disposable diapers. The kits were delivered to Valley Med on Tuesday, September 3rd, and they were extremely appreciative. A great big thank you to Jane LaPierre for all her hard work organizing the many work parties to make night gowns, receiving blankets, jackets and baby blankets, and for all the efforts it took to work through the logistics involved to complete these kits.

We were also able to complete eleven full layette kits that will be sent UMCOR. Each of these kits included two onesies, two wash cloths, two sleepers, two receiving blankets, one sweater or jacket, and six cloth diapers. Though we were not able to meet our goal of 50 complete kits, we have lots of supplies we will be sending to UMCOR to complete other partial kits they have in their warehouse. We

will be sending them 239 cloth diapers, 56 sweaters/jackets, 106 baby washcloths, 9 receiving blankets, 78 covered safety pins and two nighties/sleepers.

I can't even imagine the joy the recipients of these kits will feel when they are handed one of these bundles, knowing that someone cares enough to help them the first few days of their new little one's life. We are so blessed to have such a giving and generous congregation. Thank you to all who gave of their money, supplies, time and prayers during this yearly drive.

Lou Woodburycatcott, UMW Executive ❖



NOMADS - A Nation-Wide RV Team



Sixteen NOMADS worked at the United Methodist Sacramento Assembly in the Mountains of New Mexico during the month of August. These members were from Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and California.

NOMADS is a nation-wide RV team under the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, a division of the Board of Global Ministries. Each work team usually works at a site for three weeks at a time. There are currently 1,200 members which include 8 couples (16 people) from California.

Gene and Elaine Hill arrived in the

Sacramento Mountains (alt. 8,500 ft) three days early in order to acclimate to the environment, both socially and physically. We stayed those three days at a U.S. Forest service campground, and visited the nearby community of Cloudcroft -- local museum, chamber of commerce, old railroad trestle, and dinner at an historic resort hotel. During this adventure we learned that this area was first developed for lumber, then as a resort, and last as a cattle and sheep ranching area. Today this area is still used as a resort as well as ranching which now includes goats.

We also learned that the wild flowers were in full bloom because this was Spring. With the Monsoonal Moisture we had rain almost every afternoon. Spring usually lasts the month of August, then there is a month of fall and then winter and then summer.

On Saturday August 3 we drove 30 miles down (altitude 7,500 ft) into camp. We wandered by the small communities of Mayhill -- a gas station

(no attendant), and a separate small grocery store -- Weed -- 3 churches, a cafe/post office, and a community building -- and Sacramento -- a post office. We arrived just in time for lunch. Even though we were told that we should bring all the groceries that we would need for three weeks, when campers are in camp we were encouraged to eat in the dining hall. Most of the time we were there were campers. This is an all weather, year round camp, so even though there is a small tent and RV area, most of the people, both youth and adult, stay in dorms or cabins.

Some of the groups that were there during our stay were a women's group doing "A Walk to Emmaus", a group of High School Students from Odessa, Texas "The Satin Strings", and a group of 60 Mentally disabled adults, "Sunshine Camp". This was their 35th year. There was an area gathering for Seventh Day Adventist Youth. They all

NOMADS

continued from p.5

seemed to be having a wonderful time.

Since this camp is open every day except Christmas and Thanksgiving the work teams work around the groups and activities of the campers.

Elaine helped construct three concrete and rock fire pits. This was to keep people from establishing their own fire pits where ever they wanted to, some in unsafe areas. Elaine mixed the concrete in a wheelbarrow distributing it to the other women who were setting the rock. We finished the third fire pit in just two weeks, very pleased with ourselves. Then we found out that this was to be an unending process.

The following week Elaine assisted in painting the outside of one of the dorms. Since we had painted the door and door frame we thought it best not to close the door. We then watched a squirrel run through the open door into the living room area -- oops.

Gene, meanwhile, worked with a team of three men and a woman building and repairing a bbq shelter, and a one-unit picnic table, bench, and shelter.



One rainy afternoon some of the team replaced outdated light fixtures in the gymnasium, while others washed windows, did some indoor painting, or built roof trusses and firewood storage holders in the shop.

With a camp this large there is always indoor or outdoor work to do. We all avoided the task of taking chewing gum off of the bottom of the tables.

NOMADS is currently looking for new members. In order for you to find out if this activity is right for you, you may look at the NOMADS web page or talk to Gene and Elaine Hill.

Elaine and Eugene Hill ✨

Call the church office today to find out how you can watch these exciting new Bible studies in your home or classroom.

OUR CHURCH'S BIBLE STUDY LIBRARY IS NOW DIGITAL.

AND GIGANTIC.

OVER 2,000 ENGAGING VIDEOS FOR KIDS, YOUTH AND ADULTS

POWERED BY
rightnow

Have You Checked Out Our Church's Online Library?

By now, you'll have logged onto the RightNow.org website and checked out its libraries and contents. There is so much to see and so little time, right? About 20% of our church members have checked out the site. If you haven't done so, why not take a few minutes today? Can't locate the email with the log-on information? Search your emails for RightNow Media. Or, email the church office (barbarawade@earthlink.net) and we can send you another invite.

If the site is overwhelming, check out a category that interests you. Beside "Just Released" and "Most Popular", you'll find these categories: Children, Youth, Parenting, Marriage, College & Singles, Gospel, Outreach, Biblical Finance, Work, Leadership, Men, Women, Brand-New Small Groups, Books of the Bible, Inspirational, The Character of God, The Christian Life, People in the Bible, Christian Disciplines, Evangelism, Short Films, Recovery, Christianity and Culture, Adult Small Groups.

If there are authors you know, take a look. If a title looks engaging, click on and try it out. It doesn't cost anything to download a video.

If you find a particular topic intriguing, why not think about starting a cyber-discussion group? Shoot off an email to the office or Pastor Paul, and we'll help you set up a group in no time. Be on the lookout for our church's own channel, as Pastor Paul suggests some studies for our church.

Besides these, you can listen in to presentations being made in conferences across the country. If you find a presentation that captures your imagination, why not share it with rest of the church?

This vast media resource library is for you and your family's growth and life. If you have any questions, please email the Office.

Till then, happy viewing and learning.



Taking Faith Home Weekly

Every Sunday, you'll find a half-sheet called **Taking Faith Home** in the worship bulletin. I met someone who folded it and put it in his wallet – to be used at work when he got a minute. I keep a copy by my laptop, so I can take faith with my laptop where I spend many hours each day.

Its purpose is to simply remind you that our faith is our companion 24-7: our faith and faithfulness is nurtured in worship and study on Sundays (and other days), but our faith is expressed by faithful acts the other days of the week. Sundays and the rest of the week together. Beliefs and actions together.

Every week, the **Taking Faith Home** sheet will suggest four activities that are keys to building a strong faith at home and in the world:

Key #1 Caring Conversation – It will suggest topics and ideas based on the Sunday Bible reading, which you can use in structured and spontaneous setting. Because it is when we talk with others with TLC that our faith grows. That's how we weave faith into our daily interactions **with our family members, friends, coworkers, neighbors and strangers.**

Key #2 Devotional Practices – This section describes various spiritual practices to grow us into the people God wants us to be. These are like spiritual equivalent of daily meals, things we do daily – almost without thinking, through which God feeds us and sustain us, keeping us spiritually alive and healthy.

Key #3 Service – is like putting “wheels on faith.” Just as Jesus showed us the example of serving others, service is the way we visibly and concretely express our Christian love and belief. Faith through service makes a difference in the world by taking Christ into the hurts, hopes and heat of day to day living.

Key #4 Rituals and Traditions – This key will help build new spiritual and social capital in your home and world. As we recall our best childhood experiences – in the church and home, we can start building new ones with our children and our families. These rituals and traditions will make deep and lasting impressions on your children and family.

Soon, you'll be able to get Taking Faith Home on your smartphones and iPads so you can carry your faith with you everywhere. Look for it. In the meanwhile, by **Taking Faith Home**, you'll make a big difference in your life!



HISTORY HELPERS

"snippets from our past"



CARE CALLERS, CARE GIVERS, & CARE RECEIVERS

We want to share a word about Campbell United Methodist Church's Care Giving Program. In the past, volunteers have been trained, and then visited those in the congregation who were less mobile than previously; those who were in care facilities; and those who asked for a visitor with whom they could share freely. Sometimes Care Givers have responded to times of transition or crisis, and then that service would end when that crisis had passed. Sometimes, the relationship between giver and receiver lasts for years. Many scenarios are possible.

We have received new volunteers to the Care Giving Ministry, and eleven of us are planning to attend an introductory workshop offered by Stephen Ministries. We will find out about the program plan, and then see how to adapt it for our needs at Campbell. Over the next few months we will welcome more folks who would like to volunteer to be a special person in someone's life. We will train, organize, and equip these caregivers to reach out in love to those in our congregation who have asked for someone to call on them.

Meanwhile, Claudia Slayman, Ellen Droke and Pastor Paul will be gathering names of those who might benefit from a regular telephone call or visit. This plan is open to all, so do not hesitate to talk with Pastor Paul, Claudia or Ellen about your needs.

The Care Giving Ministries asks for your prayers of support, strength, wisdom and kindness as we begin this new effort for our church.

In Service and Love,
Ellen Droke, eadroke@aol.com

Claudia Slayman, claudia.slayman@gmail.com. Phone 408-378-3472 x23 - Tues/Wed/Thu ❖



Panels Tell the Story

Eight panels, symbolizing 125 years of our church history, now hang on the side walls of the Sanctuary. The "1880's" panel shows our first church building.

In 1888, Benjamin and Mary Campbell subdivided their land, which eventually became downtown Campbell. The Reverend George W. Beatty, of the Los Gatos Methodist Church, organized the "Class of 12" in July, 1888. He held Methodist services in the new Town Hall. It had been funded by the Campbell Hall Association which had been formed in 1886.

In 1890, the Reverend T.B. Hopkins was appointed minister for the Campbell-Saratoga area. A quarterly conference was held in October, a Board of Trustees was elected, and a suitable lot was selected. The church building, complete with Gothic windows, a tall steeple, and a bell tower, was dedicated on April 30, 1891.

That same year, John Ainsley experimented in cooking and canning fruit on a wood stove in a little shed on his property. He sent samples to his brother in England, who immediately dispatched orders for more. That was the beginning of a 40 year boom for the fruit industry in Campbell. ❖



It's Enchilada Time Again!

November 2nd is the day the United Methodist Women will make more than 1000 enchiladas for your enjoyment. You can order yours during coffee/fellowship time on Sundays in October or mail your order and payment today!

If you would like to be a part of the fun, fellowship and mission of the day we make these yummy delights please contact Janine Payton thepaytons@sbcglobal.net

I would like to order:

_____ Boxes of Chicken enchiladas with Green Sauce (2 per box)

_____ Boxes of Beef enchiladas with Red Sauce (2 per box)

_____ Boxes of Cheese enchiladas with Red Sauce (2 per box)

_____ Total # of boxes x \$5.00 = _____ Check # _____

Name _____

Phone # _____

Make Checks payable to Campbell UMW

Enchiladas must be picked up on November 2nd, 2013, between 1:00 and 3:00pm
If you cannot be there please arrange for someone else to pick them up for you as we do not have enough freezer space to store them.

*Mail or bring order including payment to the church office:
1675 Winchester Blvd
Campbell, CA 95008*

Last day to order is October 27th!

Enchiladas not picked up on November 2nd will be considered a donation, thank you!

Circuit Writer



**Don't Just Pray
- Row!**

Rev. Larry LaPierre

One of my favorite readings from Scripture is Matthew 7:7-8 (also in Luke 11:9-10). The basic message is "Ask and you will receive, Seek and you will find, Knock and it will be opened to you." (my paraphrase) It's comforting. It's even easy to remember because the first letters of the three actions form an acronym: "ASK."

A quick reading of these two texts can leave us believing that all we have to do is to ASK, and God will provide whatever we want especially if we need help. I discovered two proverbs that remind us that there is more to coping with our problems than prayer. The proverb from India says, "Call on God, but row away from the rocks." The one from Russia says, "Pray to God, but row for the shore."¹

Just about everyone in the Maine coastal community of Cutler that I served as a student pastor knew how important it is to row. Many of them set traps for lobsters for a living. In the old days it was done in row boats. There were no motors to pull up the heavy lobster traps or to propel the boat. When storms came up and they were caught in a "nor'easter," a gale with heavy winds out of the northeast, they probably did pray, but they still had to row to get back to the safety of the harbor.

Christians, especially when we feel overwhelmed by something that we can't handle by ourselves, we may turn to God as a last resort. It's not that we've ignored God. It's just that we thought that we shouldn't bother God with the smaller problems in life. (Or is that unique to New England?) We may have relied on pious assurances to guide us. Here are a few that I learned: "God answers prayers." (OK, but what happens when I can't hear the answer or I don't

like it?) "God will not let you be tested beyond what you can bear?" (Yes, but what happens if I don't think that I can bear even this much suffering?) "At the end of every prayer just add the phrase "In Jesus' name I pray," and God will answer your prayer. (Indeed, but some folks think that sounds a lot like "magical thinking"—i.e., say the right words and God essentially has to do what we ask.)

When we are looking down a dark tunnel, and all that we see is the loss of a job, divorce or a terminal diagnosis, we may panic. The more that we panic the more difficult it is to listen to what God is saying to us about our situation. Instead, we focus on telling God over and over what we want God to do. We need to ASK God for guidance, but we still need to ROW the boat we're in. The answer to prayer comes in the midst of our need and our own efforts to cope. We need to ask as people of faith and then to trust God to do whatever is best in God's plan for us. However, we still get to do what we can to row until our boat is guided to safe harbor in God's eternal home.

Rev. Larry LaPierre ✠



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2013

CARTOON CORNER



Celebrating Children's Sabbath

Sunday, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2013, 10 a.m.

Our church joins thousands of houses of worship in October to celebrate children as sacred gifts of the Divine, and to renew and live out our moral responsibility to care, protect and advocate for all children.

As we celebrate our church's 125th Anniversary this year, our church is getting ready to let go of everything else and make children a priority in our church and society. We make the children an absolute priority in our lives because we are committed to the common good as we follow Jesus' powerful call

to "love God and love others as you love yourself." How we raise and guide our children is what will most determine the future, not just for them, but the ripple effect it will have on all our families, churches, communities and world. Children's Sabbath was started and still supported by the Children's Defense Fund, a leading agency advocating for our children.

Our worship service will be an intergenerational experience – with Joyful Notes, our children's choir singing. We will be joined by the children and parents of

¹ An Encyclopedia of Compelling Quotations (R. Daniel Watkins, Ed.) (Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 2001), p. 582-583.

UMYF TALKING “LISTEN UP”

UMYF CALENDAR 2013

Sunday, September 22

Fall Ministry Fair
11:00 - 11:30 am
Stop Hunger Now
3:30 - 5:30 pm

Sunday, September 29

Lunch & Meeting
11:30 to 1:00

Sunday, October 6

Lunch & Meeting
11:30 to 1:00
Fall Festival Planning

Sunday, October 13

Corn Maze - TBA

Sunday, October 20

Lunch & Meeting
11:30 to 1:00
Fall Festival Planning

Sunday, October 27

Fall Festival
5:00 to 7:00 pm



CALLING ALL YOUTH

United Methodist Youth Fellowship is meeting again after a summer off. UMYF meets every Sunday, unless otherwise noted, in the youth room (third floor of the AMY building) from 11:30 am-1:00 pm. Lunch is included.

Along with the regular Sunday meetings, there are off-site events (movies, ice skating, and the corn maze, to name a few), and service projects throughout the year.

From lock-ins to the ABC dinner, “Souper” Bowl Sunday to Vacation Bible School, youth group is a great place to connect with your friends, have fun, and grow in faith, all at the same time .

So, if you are in the 6th through 12th grade come join us for food, fun and fellowship. Check out the youth calendar in this issue for the next meeting or event.

If you have any questions you can contact Melinda Knepp at (408) 247-3577 or melinda@kneppfamily.com.

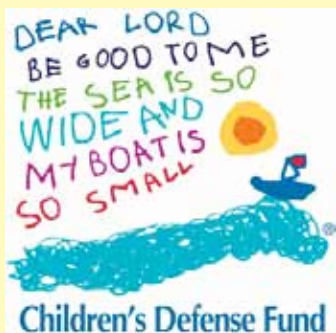
Melinda Knepp,
Youth Coordinator ❖

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Bright Days Preschool Center, a community project sponsored by our church. Our children will participate in worship. Pastor Paul will be preaching on the topic, “What our children teach us about faith.”

As part of our action following



the worship service, members will have a chance to take small steps to end the gun violence that takes a child's life every 3 hours and 15 minutes, and the violence of hunger that 16 million children suffer in our rich nation.

Come and bring your children and grandchildren, neighbor's children and their parents to this wonderful celebration. Let us celebrate our children -
God's gifts! ❖





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Mailing Date: **Sept. 18, 2013**

Next Newsletter **DEADLINE**

Oct. 16, 2013

Return Service Requested

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.

Summertime Continues At Campbell

Sunday Worship at 10 a.m. until end of October



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During the summer, two Sunday services were combined into one, meeting at a new time of 10 a.m. As we worshiped together, people said they felt renewed and encouraged being in a larger, louder group of over 200 persons. Based on this, the Church Council at its August 28th meeting decided unanimously to continue the single 10 a.m. service, on a trial basis, in September and October. Sunday School also will be held at 10 a.m. And after hearing back from church members over these two months, it will make a decision at the October 23rd Church Council to move back to the regular dual service format or to adopt a single Sunday Service at 10 a.m.

The Church Council discussed practical issues involving a single service such as parking, seating space, Sunday School schedules, lack of worship opportunities for Sunday School teachers and volunteers, and whether the majority of 9 a.m. worshipers would want to go later to 10 a.m. or if the 10:45a.m. worshipers would mind going earlier. We reviewed the positives of a single service such as a less rushed Hospitality Time, less resources consumed and more time for classes and groups to meet before or after service. Your input and opinions about the single service are welcomed. Please contact anyone on the Church Council or its chairperson Bruce Hallinan.

Finally, going to one service will not mean decreasing opportunities to worship. Instead a committee is being formed to explore other worship times, styles and formats, focusing on the people we hope to reach out to in our community. We hope to hear your input about this as well. This extended summertime may be an opportunity for our church to consolidate our energy and resources, strengthen our relationships and get ready for new possibilities. See you in the Lord's house at 10 a.m. in October.