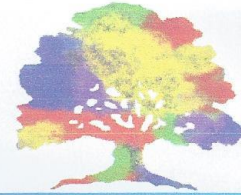


# Campbell

# CONNECTIONS



News and views from Campbell United Methodist Church

June, 2014



It's an odd thing, isn't it, this way churches find pastors and pastors find new appointments in our United Methodist system?

No doubt you have had as many conversations as I have recently in which the answers to people's questions about your church are "I don't know," or "I'm not sure yet!"

In our United Methodist system, this union of our futures is far more like an arranged marriage than it is the culmination of a long courtship. We not only had a matchmaker who suggested we might enjoy each other's company; we had a Bishop who said, "This is the pastor you will be committed to, and who will commit herself to you."

Sociologists of American religion tell us that pastoral appointment systems like the United Methodist one have about the same success rate as denominations that use a system in which there's a long series of interviews and try-outs. That's about the same conclusion that anthropologists would give us about the success and failure rates of marriages in cultures with arranged marriage traditions, as opposed to marriages for love. The success of either kind of marriage depends on the commitment to do so, the commitment to stay together, regardless of bad days along the way or better-looking options coming around the corner. What's different between these two marriage systems is the sequence of steps by which that commitment is cemented.

In marriage as we usually think of it and see it practiced in this culture, love comes first, and then a commitment to marry, and to try to nurture and sustain that love over a lifetime. In an arranged

marriage, the commitment comes first—and it might be based even on matters as crass-sounding to us as economics or status or somebody's objective sense of suitability—with the expectation that affection and concern, and even love, can grow later. And they do grow, often.

That's the kind of commitment we are making to one another. To be in ministry together, each of us with our separate gifts and strengths and needs and roles, before we know each other very well. To commit ourselves to this marriage of our intentions and goals and faith journeys, trusting that we will learn to love each other along the way.

But I also know that it will take some time for us to get to know one another, and for you to trust me as your pastor. As a congregation, you've been through a lot of change in the past several years. Every ending includes loss and some grief, and I know that your loss of Pastor Paul Kim has been particularly heart-wrenching. I honor those experiences in you, and I look forward to hearing about how you look at them through your own eyes. As with all the "little deaths" we experience in our lives, we can think of them as "baggage", or we can honor them as the wealth of experiences that shape us for whatever the next chapters of our lives will hold, the crosses that are inevitably followed by resurrection.

Despite not knowing much about this church or even about Campbell, I want you to know that I feel enormously excited about being with you as your pastor. I am looking forward to years of good life and good ministry together, to knowing you and to our mutual friendship.

With blessings, and with anticipation—

Kathi McShane



A new tree for our courtyard!



**HELP THE NEW PASTOR**

When Reverend Kathi McShane arrives in July, she will have a big job learning everyone's name. To help her and to make her feel welcome, please wear your nametag on Sunday mornings. If you need a new nametag, please contact the church office.



**For Hungry Kids,  
Summer Vacation is  
No Break from Hunger**

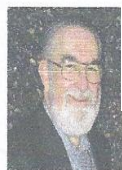
For many families within our local communities, summer means the loss of nutritious meals for their children. Thousands of local families depend on the free or reduced-price meals their children receive at school to meet some of their children's nutritional needs. Cindy McCown, senior director of Programs and Services at Second Harvest, notes that "many families who rely on these meals during the school year may be having a difficult time feeding their children right now." – *From Second Harvest Food Bank website*

Thanks to the generosity of so many, Campbell UMC is a year-round supporter of Second Harvest Food Bank. We fill the barrels frequently and volunteer at the warehouse. However, the summer months provide an additional opportunity to boost our efforts and help ensure children enjoy their summer and don't experience the pangs of hunger.

Let's help Second Harvest and lend our support to their "Stand Up for Kids" campaign this summer. As you shop for groceries, please remember the families who might need our help putting nutritious food on the table. Church & Society will have additional barrels on campus throughout the summer months to accommodate your generous contributions. If we each donate just one or two cans or other food items each Sunday, our barrels would be overflowing and we'll keep Second Harvest hopping replacing our barrels. Anything you can do to help fight hunger will be truly appreciated. Thank you!

Gail Jacobs, Church & Society

## Circuit Writer



### **FORGIVENESS AFTER WE DIE?**

*Rev. Larry LaPierre*

Jane and I are watching for the second time a course on DVD on the nature of evil. In thirty six ½ hour sessions the instructor (Dr. Charles Matthews) guides us through a

number of ways to understand the nature of evil. It was much simpler to understand evil back when I belonged to a church that told us what was sinful. Sin was breaking any of the rules. Actually, evil was never defined clearly for those of us who sat in the pews. We just knew that it had something to do with the Devil, and that it basically involved doing what God didn't want us to do.

Evil was also connected to the suffering of Jesus who, we were told, was sent by God to die for our sins. In essence, the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross was the atonement required by God to make right our relationship with God. Many years later I read a book by a United Methodist Church pastor who helped make some sense of this. Maxie Dunnam divided the word "Atonement" into three syllables: at – one – ment. He told us that what God did through Jesus made us one with God. It restored us to fellowship with God.

That's all well and good for those of us who have not had to deal with what evil can do in the lives of ordinary people. We don't have to have crossed paths with Hitler, Joseph Stalin, Pol Pot, those who caused the deaths of 800,000 Hutus and Tutus in Rwanda or any of the others who caused enormous suffering and death in the last century. Far too many of us have suffered due to the words and actions of people who should have protected us rather than abused us. Far too many of us have had loved ones injured, tortured or killed in gang wars, so-called domestic violence or street drugs.

Don't the perpetrators of evil acts deserve to be punished—some of them forever? When I was young the answer was "Yes!" Then what is the writer of 1<sup>st</sup> Peter doing when he writes about God reaching out to "the spirits in prison" ((3:18-22)--presumably Hell)? What are we to think when we read in 4:6, "For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that,

though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does."

It raises the possibility that sins, especially ones that clearly involved evil intent and actions over which we had control, can be forgiven even after we die. How can that be fair? Most of us might agree that it is not fair. But then most of us get stuck believing that love, mercy and spiritual healing can go only so far.

Just how far will God go to forgive us? My experience suggests that God will go further than any of us can imagine! God came to earth for us. God went to the cross for us. Why is it so hard to believe that God went where human spirits were kept until Jesus could free them? Do we seriously imagine that the One about whom we teach our children to sing "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so" will stop loving us when we die with unhealed sin in us? I choose to believe that God continues to offer us a path that draws us closer to God in the next life as we experience God's love and especially God's forgiveness.

Rev. Larry LaPierre

### **Don't forget about Scrip!**

Scrip is an easy way to support the church without spending more than you already do in your everyday shopping!

- 1) **Gift cards/certificates** - stop by the table to see the wide variety of merchants we carry in stock and also by special order.
- 2) **eScrip**- register your Safeway card and others to generate a donation to the church every time you shop at an eScrip merchant.
- 3) **Online**- use eScrip.com as your online shopping portal and a donation comes back to the church.

**Stop by the table during fellowship time to learn more....** *Janine Payton*



## Living Out Easter – Serving the Homeless

As Methodists, we are called to serve. On Easter Sunday, a team from Campbell United Methodist Church answered that call quite literally! Organized by the Church & Society committee, a special Easter dinner was prepared and served to approximately 50 men at InnVision Shelter Network's Montgomery Street Inn (MSI) in San Jose.



The men who came to the shelter for a simple meal were met with smiling and welcoming faces offering an Easter feast -- generous portions of ham as well as a plentiful assortment of side dishes. When the men had filled their plates, they were delighted to see

baskets overflowing with colored, hard-boiled Easter eggs as well as Easter goodie bags filled with home-baked goods, chocolate treats, and an Easter meditation.

One can only imagine the types of disappointments and hardships that have befallen the men who come to the shelter. It brought great joy to see each person receive a plate full of hardy and nutritious food. Seeing the treats in the festive Easter baskets, the men would politely ask, "Can I have one?" Upon hearing an enthusiastic and resounding, "Of course!" their faces would light up! It was heartwarming to glimpse within their eyes a fleeting expression of childlike wonder and happiness, perhaps recalling more carefree and happier times from their youth.

Several people enjoyed second helpings and everyone left satisfied. The men consistently expressed their appreciation with genuine words of thanks, "Happy Easter" greetings, blessings, and an enthusiastic round of applause.

When dinner was over, one man asked if there were any scraps of ham left that he could put out for the cats that are often in the parking lot. Carol Laucella recalls, "He painstakingly cut the ham into small pieces and left it out for their 'pets.' It spoke to me because here was a man who had so little himself and yet was still thinking of others."



When the volunteer team left InnVision that Easter evening, it was with full hearts.

It is truly a privilege to participate in this ministry; and having the opportunity to serve a meal to those less unfortunate, especially on such a blessed and joyous day, made this activity even more special and memorable. Sherry Finzel says, "Serving Easter dinner at InnVision was the perfect way to end a joyous day filled with faith, family, friends and service. The men we served were grateful certainly, and I believe those of us who had the opportunity to serve were filled with even more gratitude." Perhaps Franklin Bondonno, Chair of Church & Society, captures the experience most succinctly: "I think this is what living out Easter is all about."



CUMC servers (l-r): Roxanne Kohlin, Carol Laucella, Gail Jacobs, Sherry Finzel, John Finzel

As with most events, it takes a village. Church and Society wishes to thank all the church members who contributed their time to help provide and serve a delicious dinner for the homeless at MSI. A special thanks to Lea Adams and Carol Laucella for their coordinating efforts to make sure the dinner was cooked, transported and served on time. Thanks to all of you who provided special Easter treats to go with the dinner as well as the necessary ingredients. And a very special thanks to the team who went to the shelter on Easter to serve the meal. Additional thanks go to Roxanne Kohlin for posting photos on CUMC's Facebook page before she even got home!

Your participation is so essential to providing this special mission in our area. Church and Society appreciates your wonderful response to our sign-up sheets and your interest in helping with all aspects of this continuing ministry. We thank you!

Church & Society,

Gail Jacobs & Lea Adams



## CARE GIVING, CAMPBELL CHURCH STYLE?

First organized by Pastor Bobbie Corson in 1989, a team of trained lay members visits, calls and cares for other members who may have special needs. Currently care receivers are home-bound, in care facilities or hospitals, in treatment, or are in difficult circumstances.

This lay care giving supplements pastoral care, for which our pastors are usually available. As we await our new pastor, Kathi McShane, in July, Pastor Karen Paulsen is with us now to fill this role.

Care givers listen, support by their presence and pray with those who have asked for this ministry. It is open and available for any and all members.

Would you, a loved one or a friend in the congregation appreciate a friendly visitor or phone call from someone who will represent the loving and caring arms of the church?

Or maybe a good correspondent who will support a member through a crisis or difficulty? You may inquire confidentially by calling (408) 378-3472 x23 and leaving a message, or by emailing:

Claudia at [claudia.slayman@gmail.com](mailto:claudia.slayman@gmail.com);

Ellen Droke at [eadroke@aol.com](mailto:eadroke@aol.com); or

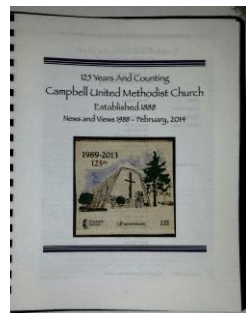
Pastor Karen Paulsen at [retirekp12@gmail.com](mailto:retirekp12@gmail.com).

Please don't hesitate to contact our team to ask about receiving these services of our church. They are freely and lovingly given in God's service.

Blessings and Peace to you,  
Ellen

**Question:** What has 48 pages, 17 contributing writers, colored illustrations, and is on sale for only \$10?

**Answer:** *125 Years and Counting: News and Views of our Last 25 Years.* Copies are available for purchase during Sunday morning Fellowship Time.



## CHEERFUL ULTRA MIGHTY WINNERS TO WALK AGAIN

For the second year, **Campbell United Methodist Women** are sponsoring a team for the Campbell Relay for Life, raising funds for the American Cancer Society.

Last year our team of 24 registered walkers included men, women, and youth. We had at least one walker on the Campbell Community Center track for every one of the 24 hours of the event. This year's Relay begins Saturday, July 12 with an opening ceremony at 10 a.m. The Mighty Winners invite you to join our team.

Contact Susan Sargent, Team Captain, at [hrhiker@aol.com](mailto:hrhiker@aol.com).



A highlight of each Relay for Life is the lighting of hundreds of luminaria after dark.

*Create a luminaria to honor or remember someone you love on Sunday, June 8, after the worship service.*

A \$10 donation per luminaria is requested. In addition, we will have a few homemade food items for sale.

All funds raised go to the American Cancer Society.

*Relay For Life of Campbell is a life-changing event that helps our community celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. The funds raised by this event support the American Cancer Society in survivor support, education, services and research in cancer prevention, treatment and cures.*

Celebrate.

Remember.

Fight Back.



# Youth News



*I sure hope you did not miss the children's musical on May 4<sup>th</sup>! I am glad I was there to see the story of Joseph and his Snazzy Jazzy Coat and the Dream Team Extreme. A HUGE thanks to EVERYONE INVOLVED in this fantastic gift to the church.*

## Summer Sunday School Volunteers Needed

During the summer, Sunday, June 8th, 2014 through Sunday, August 31st, 2014, our Sunday School teachers will be given a well-deserved break from their hard work and dedication throughout the majority of the year. All Sunday School classes will be combined in order to form a "one room schoolhouse" model for the summer.

In order to make this one-room model work, we need two adult volunteers on each Sunday during the Summer. One adult serves as the lead teacher (Teacher #1 on sign-up sheet) and the other serves as an assistant (Teacher #2 on sign-up sheet). Both adult volunteers on a given Sunday may wish to share responsibilities and co-lead. Curriculum and training is available for this volunteer role (further information to follow). A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Educational Building on Sundays or contact Julie Lattin at 408.378.3472 or [campbellumcfamilies@earthlink.net](mailto:campbellumcfamilies@earthlink.net) to volunteer.

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thanks to everyone who enjoyed a dinner (or maybe even lunch) out at Willow Street Pizza on April 30, \$252.70 was made to go towards our youth's participation in Sierra Service Project this summer. It was a win(no cooking), win(getting to have dinner with lots of friends) , win (supporting a very worthwhile service project) night. Thanks again for your support.

Keep an eye out for future Dinner Nights.



## IT'S A JUNGLE SAFARI!

That's the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School. At this jungle adventure your kids will experience God's word through songs, Bible stories, crafts and games and group time.

It's not too late to book your safari. This adventure is for kids 3 years old and potty trained to those entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Look for registration packets in the church office or contact Melinda Knepp at [melinda@kneppfamily.com](mailto:melinda@kneppfamily.com).



Summer Camp registration is OPEN  
information available at  
[www.cnumc.org/camping](http://www.cnumc.org/camping)

# In the Community

## David and Margaret Youth and Family Services

On Saturday March 29, five Nomad couples gathered at The David and Margaret Home in La Verne, California for three weeks of work. The five couples came from California (2), Hawaii, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. Elaine and Eugene Hill were one of the couples from California.

Nomads are a nation wide United Methodist R.V. team that works throughout the United States on disaster relief and Methodist properties.

The David and Margaret Home was established as an orphanage in 1910, by the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The property had been donated by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kuns of La Verne. It had been a seldom used hotel on 17 acres of land. In the 1920's Mr. Kuns added more land to the property, and financially helped building a concrete building after the original wooden hotel burned. This building still stands and is used primarily for offices.

The youth are now housed in 6 residential cottages on campus, some transitional apartments next door, and 2 residential homes in the community. There is also the Joan Macy on-campus school. Today this facility operates a foster family agency, Learning enhancement center, alcohol and drug addiction center, and a self injury program. Because of their continuing commitment to youth, many of these programs are offered in the community and through the public schools

Over the years commercial establishments have given new merchandise to David and Margaret. Most of the items are things that can be used in the maintenance of the facility, or eaten and worn by the children. The local commercial establishments have been very supportive of the Home. Today David and Margaret is given so much merchandise that they are able to run a store, "The Bargain Boutique". This store is able to provide a major income for the facility, and provide work for sheltered workshops.

Because this facility deals with troubled youth there are written and unwritten rules for both physical and verbal conduct. People smile and are genuinely happy. People say good morning and mean it.

Employees help each other. Elaine sat in on a staff meeting. The plan was to make this thing work. Any person with a constructive comment could make one. Everyone chimed in and there was a lot of laughing. The result? "We'll tell the client what we are trying to do, and see if it will work." The Nomad team had entered into an environment for self improvement, no extra charge.

So what did these 10 people have to do at this site?

David and Margaret wanted one person dedicated full time to the store. Elaine was the lucky individual selected for this job. The rest of the people worked on general maintenance tasks. There were a lot of bathrooms painted, some replacement of ceiling tile, scraping and painting of the outside of buildings, digging holes and planting two trees, putting in a concrete mow strip, and some minor roof repair.

Gene assisted in the installation of two french drains.

The one put in the lawn beside a sidewalk was a lot of digging, but not too bad. The other drain required the use of a jack hammer to take out a triangle of cement, and then the digging, replacement of rebar, and pouring of cement. He was also able to assist with roof repair on a ceramic tile roof, and the patching of a tar and paper roof on the paint shed.

This building was to have some minor repair. They ended up replacing one wall and all of the overhang on the roof, and severely trimming back a fig tree which was responsible for much of the roof damage.

Meanwhile Elaine was working hard in the store but having a wonderful time. The store is one big space, but almost divided into 3 parts -- food, clothing, and general merchandise which includes a large toy section. She was doing normal store things, such as putting things back where they belong, and general clean up. She also repackaged the 50lb bags of coffee into about 2lb bags, repackaged candy, unpacked jewelry and made grab bags out of the broken pieces, and made small hygiene bags out of donated samples. She was also able to put new stock on the shelves. The day the strawberries came in they were gone as quickly as they were put on the shelves. This store is open to the public, so if you are in the area you might want to do a little shopping -- open Monday 1 to 6:30, Tuesday through Friday 9 to 6:30, Saturday 9 to 5:30.



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Mailing Date: May 21, 2014  
Next Newsletter DEADLINE  
June 11, 2014

*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*

### All Church Arts and Crafts Show and Sale

Join Jim Laflin and other church members as they show some of their handcrafted wares.



Many items (like this gorgeous bowl) made from our beloved Silver Maple will be available for donation.

**Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup>**  
11:00-1:30pm

*Campbell United Methodist Church presents*

### ***Chinar Merjanian***

*in a solo organ concert*

Friday, June 13

7:30 p.m.

Performing music by:

Vierne, Hindemith, Widor, Ad Wammes and Pamela Decker.

This performance is the South Bay preview of her Boston National AGO (American Guild of Organists) Convention Rising Stars recital. Chinar was awarded the Boston convention recital as a result of winning the West Region Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists last summer in Bakersfield. Chinar is the organist at Cambrian UMC and a student at San Jose State University.

Free admission. This is a gift of music to the community.