

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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SEBASTOPOL CA 95473

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Rev. Eugene N. Nelson, Jr.

gnelson@uccseb.org



March 2016



From the Pastor. . .

I recently heard a friend announce that he has pretty much lost hope for our world and for the human race. The news each day is so consistently and relentlessly depressing that he is quite convinced that the human project has run its course. Oh, we might flail about for a few more centuries, but as far as he is concerned the end of civilization is in sight. Curiously, if you have the patience and stomach to listen to the presidential candidates' debates, particularly on the Republican side, they pretty much seem to think the same thing. The world as we know it is coming to an end... unless of course, we choose to elect one of them.

The world and our country seem so fearful and angry right now. Government is frozen in bitter partisan deadlock – I'm not sure Congress could even agree on fixing potholes. A study published in Science magazine in the summer of 2014 announced that global warming is approaching a tipping-point after which no reversal will be possible. Marine life will perish – will there ever be another Dungeness crab season? – more species will become extinct, coastal areas will be flooded and weather will become more and more violent – do you recall when tornadoes used to occur only in the spring? Now every season seems to be tornado season. Meanwhile terrorist killings in Paris and San Bernardino, ISIS threats, and worldwide violence leave us all on edge. Yes, I confess that there are days when I find myself thinking a lot about my friend's conclusion that there is no hope.

But, in March, Lent will once again lead to Holy Week. And once again we will rehearse the drama we know so well, as the peaceful kindness and gracious compassion of Jesus confront the world of abusive power and violence. By Friday it will seem as if those powers have won once again, as they always seem to do.

And yet, a new Easter morning will also dawn again. And because we dare to believe that, we also dare to believe, in the words of one colleague, "That although bullies, thugs and murderers seem to be winning, peace and justice will prevail at the end of the day. We dare to believe that the long arc of history, as Martin Luther King, Jr., reminded us, is toward freedom, equality, kindness, justice and love." And if that makes us fools for Christ, then so be it... I choose to be a fool.

Gene

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP



Join Grief Counselors Harry & Susanna Simms in the Fireside Room on Thursday evenings at 7PM as they facilitate a support group dealing with the pain of grief. Losing a loved one, whether it be a recent loss, or from years past, can be difficult to process. Please call Harry or Susanna at 829-7769 if you have any questions. The group meets each Thursday at 7PM in the Fireside Room. There is no charge and the group is open to all.

ADULT EDUCATION SUNDAY MORNING CLASS CONTINUES

Please join us Sundays at 9:30 in the Fireside Room for coffee and to discuss the scripture chosen for the sermon. We will begin the discussion with a brief insight into the pastor's view of the passage and pose questions for the group. We will read the passage, discuss it, and then listen to the Sunday sermon with a little more insight and hear what the pastor has to say. You don't need to be a Bible scholar, just have the desire to delve into the Bible, one scripture at a time.

Baked Goods for Sunday Coffee Hour

We need to stock up with goodies to share during our Coffee Hour! If you have cookies, cake or some kind of treat we can serve after church, please bring it by the church wrapped for the freezer and we can save it for next Sunday. Thanks!



TAIZE AROUND THE CROSS

AN INTERFAITH CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, SANTA ROSA

Open Door Ministries of the First Congregational UCC in Santa Rosa invites you to experience *Taize Around the Cross* each Saturday evening at 5 pm. This new service, beginning March 5, will be in the sanctuary at 2000 Humboldt Street in Santa Rosa with candlelight, scripture, silence, chant, centering prayer and a brief reflection followed by open communion. Musicians and singers are eagerly sought to drop in – simply arrive 20 minutes prior to prayer. Contact Evelyn McFaden for more information at 829-0767.

Sermons & Scripture

March 2016

Lenten Sermon Theme: Jesus' Great Questions

In the four Gospels, Jesus asks over 300 questions. During Lent, we will reflect on some of them.



March 6 THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

JESUS GREAT QUESTIONS: WHY ARE YOU SO AFRAID?

It is amazing how many times Jesus asks people about their fear. He suggests an alternative.

Mark 4:35-41 One Great Hour of Sharing Rev. Nelson

March 13 THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

JESUS GREAT QUESTIONS:

WHAT GOOD DOES IT DO YOU TO GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD?

Jesus doesn't get much more countercultural than this. In the name of security we consume and accumulate, only to find we have put our souls at risk.

Matthew 16:24-26; Luke 22:24-27 Rev. Nelson

March 20 PALM SUNDAY

Lydia Mulkey will preach on this Palm Sunday.

March 27 Easter Sunday

6:30 AM SUNRISE SERVICE IN RAGLE PARK.

Members of our folk/acoustic group along with Rev. Brian Plaugher will lead this informal service as we gather to greet Easter Day.

9:00 AND 11:00 AM WORSHIP

JESUS' GREAT QUESTIONS: WHO IS IT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR?

No doubt Mary Magdalene had many thoughts and questions as she approached the tomb on that first Easter. But she never expected this!

John 20:1-18 Rev. Nelson

9 AM Music by the Divine Connection

**11 AM Music by the Chancel, Handbell & Instrumental Choirs
Darryl Fenley at the Organ & Piano for both services**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE for Holy WEEK

*March 20 Palm
Sunday 10:30 AM*

We remember and celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with a palm processional and music by our Children's and Chancel Choirs.

March 24 Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM

We will gather in Faith Chapel at 7 PM for a service of communion as we recall Jesus' last night with his disciples in the Upper Room. We will conclude with the service of Tenebrae. Tenebrae is an ancient and moving service of the extinguishing of lights as the story of Jesus betrayal, arrest and crucifixion is told.

March 25 Good Friday

On Good Friday you are invited to visit the Pilgrim Center Chapel between noon to 3 pm for a time of quiet meditation.

March 27 Easter Sunday

Again this year we will celebrate Easter with three distinctive services:

6:30 AM – Sunrise Service in Ragle Park.

Led by the Rev. Brian Plaughter with music by members of our Folk Acoustic group. Please park outside the park gates and walk to the Peace Garden.

9:00 AM – An Easter service with the Divine Connection providing musical leadership.

11:00 AM – A classic Easter celebration with music led by our Chancel, Instrumental and Handbell Choirs.

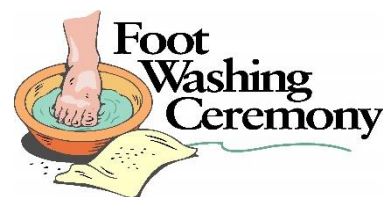
Join us for these wonderful celebrations of resurrection, new life and hope!



Children & Youth!

HOLY WEEK HAPPENINGS

The Children's Ministry and Youth Programs will be joining together for several off-site events during Holy Week:



**Thursday, March 24 at 5 pm at
Doran Beach
Maundy Thursday Foot Washing
& Communion at the Beach.**

We will wash each other's feet and share communion at the beach. Meet at the Doran Beach main parking lot where the bathrooms are located. Parents will be responsible for supervising their children at the beach. **Youth** may meet Lydia at church by 4:15 pm to ride in the church van. Please bring a blanket and towel—and a snack to share. Come and enjoy an ancient tradition in a beautiful place! Parking fees apply to each car.

**Friday, March 25 at 5pm at Pleasant Hill Cemetery
Good Friday Cemetery Visit and Ritual**

We will visit the cemetery and tour some of the interesting tombs of Sebastopol, on this day when we consider Jesus' own death. We will do a short ritual in the cemetery and possibly some tombstone rubbings. There's never a better time to visit a cemetery with children and youth, than when it's not imminent. Come spend Good Friday with Rachel and Lydia in the cemetery!

**Saturday, March 26 at 11am at Ragle Ranch Peace Garden
Holy Saturday Egg Hunt**

Come hunt for eggs at Ragle Ranch's Peace Garden! We will have several "waves" of hunters, with the youngest going first. Please BYOB – bring your own basket!



Youth News

Sr. High School PF Grades 9-12

Middle School PF Grades 6-8

March 2016

No regular youth group nights in March – so take note!

March 6 – BINGO FUNDRAISER!

High Schoolers, please arrive at 9:30am to help set up and plan to stay until 3:30 pm to help clean up.

Middle Schoolers are welcome to help with set up and clean up as well, and are encouraged to help with the children's bingo during the event! The BINGO event is from Noon-3 pm.

March 12 – 13: Love — All That and More Retreat
10 am Saturday- 12 noon Sunday in the Youth Lounge

March 13 – No Youth Groups

March 20 – No Youth Group Tonight-
See you at our Holy Week services!

March 24 • 5 pm • Maundy Thursday
Foot Washing Service at Doran Beach
7 pm Maundy Thursday service in the chapel

Good Friday • March 25
5 pm • Good Friday Service • Pleasant Hills Cemetery

Saturday • March 26
10 am Youth hide eggs at Ragle Ranch Peace Garden
11 am Egg Hunt for children at Ragle Ranch Peace Garden
12-12:30 pm Youth Clean up egg hunt

March 27- Happy Easter! No Youth Groups Tonight-
Enjoy the holiday with your family!
Sunrise Easter Services at 6:30 am in Ragle Ranch Park
9 am and 11 am Easter Sunday services in the Sanctuary



Florida *Beach* *Blanket* Bingo

WHEN

SUNDAY MARCH 6TH
12:00 to 3 pm

WHERE

**COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF SEBASTOPOL
MEMORIAL HALL**

**1000 GRAVENSTEIN
HIGHWAY NORTH, SEBASTOPOL**

**FEATURING: GOOD EATS, PRIZES,
ENTERTAINMENT AND FAMILY FUN!**

WWW.UCCSEB.ORG



**COME SUPPORT
THE SENIOR
HIGH YOUTH
GROUP'S
MISSION TRIP
TO ORLANDO,
FLORIDA**



TICKETS:

**\$20.00 Adults
\$10.00 Kids**

**INCLUDES LUNCH,
DESSERT, and 5
BINGO GAMES**

**WINE AVAILABLE
for PURCHASE**

**PRIZES
GREAT
FUN FOR
THE WHOLE
FAMILY**

March Birthdays



1	Jamie Lerum	15	Megan Bradley
	Maya Malone	17	Lynn Brittan
	John Carlson		Lori Babcock
3	CJ Hudlow	18	Lloyd Lerum
	Connie Blackstone		Karyl Clenenen-Drennon
4	Pam Kruse		Tami Hinckley
	Jay Zimmer		Sonja Leake
5	Denelle Tognozzi		Jerry Coleman
	Hope Madden		Jane Austin
	Krista Kalembe	19	Breanne Cassells
6	Ross Galleto		Esme Sundance
7	Wendy Cunningham	20	Joyce Cox
8	Fannie Lanzo	22	Taylor Davison
	Erik Holland		Carter Bell
	Olivia Foster	23	Nao Noguchi
9	Julie Davis		Lee Davis
	Todd Edwards		Charlie Jenkins
10	Venice DelMonte		Esme Arendt
	Amy Rocha	25	Kathy Smith
	Sara Jordan	26	Elliot Butterfield
	Leslie Wood		Erin Butterfield
11	Joella Falkingham		Josh Bradley
	Diana Iverson		Olivia Stoll
12	Liz Junge	27	Jim Lerum
	Brook Embry	28	Helen Williams
	Avy Card	29	Margarette Murakami
	Owen Thomas		Rich McChesney
	Reece Thomas		Diane Brink
		31	Zöe Dillard

Women's Fellowship



All women of the church are an innate part of Women's Fellowship and are invited to attend any Fellowship activity, whether or not they are interested in becoming further involved.

Women's Fellowship has been an important part of the Community Church since the church was first established in Sebastopol in 1889. As an organization, we are continuing to develop and change in order to best serve the women of our church.

Our Women's Fellowship contributes to the social life of the church. However, we do far more than that. In addition to organizing luncheons and teas, we raise money to contribute to the church's current expenses, support many church activities and contribute to outreach projects in the wider community. This is accomplished by the women of our church coming together with love and dedication, much muscle power, and their many talents to work for the good of their church and community.

We welcome participation at any time by women who have an interest in some or all of our activities. Our meeting schedule has recently changed to the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month:

- ★ **Thursday, March 10: *Monthly Meeting***
 - 10 AM – Executive Board** – Women's Fellowship Office
 - 10:30 AM – Program** – Media Room –Jane Huneke and Judy Peterson will share slides and speak on their recent experience walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain. All church members (men and women) are invited to attend.
 - 11:15 AM – Business Meeting** – Faith Chapel
 - 12 PM – Lunch** provided by Circle One in Fellowship Hall
- ★ **Thursday, March 24: *Circle Meetings***
 - Circle 1** – 1 pm - Crafting for in Fellowship Hall.
 - Circle 2** – 10 am – Location to be announced

Our Sunday School is Moving Toward a Safe Church Policy!

What is a Safe Church and what does it mean for us?

Safe church policies help protect the most vulnerable among us, especially our children from the devastating effects of abuse. Our denomination, the UCC, is strongly recommending that all churches adopt Safe Church standards. Everyone is safer when policies are in place and are carefully followed. In the Sunday School it means that 2 adults must be with our children at all times, with at least one adult present who has had a background check. We are beginning to implement some of these policies-- but it means that we need additional helpers in the Sunday School.

Who can help and what is required? Anyone over 18 who is willing to undergo a background check is welcome to help out! Being a helper means supervising the children during their craft time: observing them as they do their art work and helping them as needed, then dismissing them to their parents. Helpers sign up on a drop-in basis, with no recurring commitment.

Why can't the children's parents just be the Sunday School helpers? Many of the children's parents do help in the Sunday School, but we need 4 adults every Sunday through May 29th, and it is more than the parent body can cover. When a child is baptized in the church, our congregation makes promises to do our best to support the faith life of that child-- so helping in the Sunday School can be part of the whole congregation's commitment to our baptismal promises.

Why do we need 4 adults in addition to the storyteller? We are blessed to have so many children in Sunday School that we need to use both rooms for our art response time-- with 2 adults required in both rooms, we need 4 adults each week.

Many thanks to everyone who has already signed up! If you have questions or want to talk more about protecting our children in the Sunday School, please contact Rachel Knuth.



Death

Church member Vince Daluiso, long-time partner of Hosanna Bauer, died on February 7. Vince, who was very active in the music world throughout the county, had been battling a number of health issues. Please keep Hosanna and all of their friends and family in your hearts during this tough time. Hosanna is currently staying with family in Hawaii. No services are planned at this time.

Baptism

Cedar Lloy Edwards, the son of church members Todd and Rosie Edwards, was baptized into the Christian faith on February 28. Rev. Gene Nelson officiated the baptism during the Sunday worship service. Blessings!

Moved

Please make these changes to your church directory:

Lisa Johnson

1731 Medical Center Dr. Apt.40 (the apt. # is the only change)
Anaheim, CA 92801

Prue Manley

5555 Montgomery Dr. #L 102 (apt. # & phone are new)
Santa Rosa, CA 95409 707-537-4382

IMPRESSIONS OF CUBA

MARCH 13 • AFTER CHURCH • MEDIA ROOM

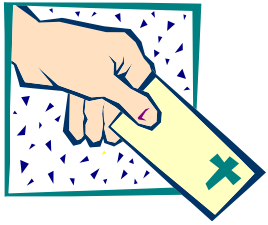
Stuart Mitchel has visited family in Cuba 7 times since 1993. He will be sharing his reflections and photos of Cuba in the



Media Room after church on March 13.

Cuba will be allowing regularly scheduled flights between the US and Cuba to resume after more than 50 years. This follows the renewal of diplomatic ties between the two countries last summer, with flights to begin later this year.

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending this very informative presentation on March 13.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our church had a strong beginning to this year of change and transition. Operating income exceeded expenses by a little over \$7,000 leaving us with a month end operating balance of \$9,204. Pledge income was quite strong as a few households paid their pledge for the entire year. But plate income and facility use fees also exceeded projections. So thank you all.

However, even with that positive news, total pledges for the year are still several thousand dollars below our goal. So again, if you have not yet made a pledge for 2016, please consider doing so. This will be a year when the church needs the generous and prayerful support of each and every one of us.

Pledge Update

This year as of 2/24/16

Total Households Pledging 120
Operating Fund Pledges \$254,484

Last year as of 2/27/15

Total Households Pledging 123
Operating Fund Pledges \$270,239

Pledge Cards are available on the table in the Narthex. Please give prayerful thought to your financial support of the church



PEOPLE OF FAITH FIND OF THE FUNDS

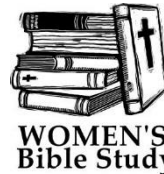
People of Faith are needed to **Find the Funds** for our final push to pay off our building loan to the 10 church families who helped us get our Pilgrim Center built.

I am happy to announce that people of Faith are finding the Funds to retire our building debt. \$44,100 has come in since our Annual Meeting in January. Please dig deep and join in the giving to pay back our church members who made loans 5 years ago. Watch the green bricks rise on the church chart to show our progress. Thank you for your dedication and generosity. Bobbie Johanson



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Pastoral Search Committee has been conducting phone interviews and had a face to face interview in late February. We are very excited about this candidate and will keep you updated. Gene will leave some big shoes to fill and we are working very hard to have just the right person in place to do an excellent job of shepherding our flock well into the future.



Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet in March on Wednesday, March 2, 9, 16 and 23 in the Fireside Room at 10 AM. We will begin with a study on the Book of Job, Chapters 1-3. The group will take a break for Easter from March 30 through April 6, returning on April 13 with Jobs 13-15 and a discussion on The Faith that Rebels. All women are invited to Women's Bible Study. Questions? Please contact Joanne Matson at 823-5249.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children (age 6-11) are invited to choir practice on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in the Choir Room. The Children's Choir schedule is below:

March 6 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am

March 13 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am

March 20 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am & sing on worship

All Glory, Laud, and Honor #192 sung by heart

Sing in 10:30am Worship: *Hosanna In the Highest*

March 27 Happy Easter! No Rehearsal

Questions? Contact Children's Choir Director Lydia Mulkey at 823-2484 ext.104 or LydiaMulkey@uccseb.org.



CHAIR RECOVER PROJECT CONTINUES MARCH 5

A number of blue padded chairs that live (mostly) in Fellowship Hall still need to be recovered and that will happen on Saturday, March 5, starting at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Kathy Matthies will lead the group – if you would like to come help, please give the office a call at 823-2484. We have a great system and the project is actually fun and very rewarding!

Father's Group: Education, Discussion, Support

- Monday Nights in the Youth Lounge • 7-9 pm •
3/21 • 4/25 • 5/23

- Develop parenting approaches that strengthen your relationship with your child
- Learn about the relationship factors and environmental conditions that are most important in nurturing your child's healthy development
- Gain clarity about the basis for disciplinary decisions and actions
- Develop strategies for more effective co-parenting
- Be part of a supportive community of dads focused on improving family relationships

Led by Doug Silberstein, MFT. Doug is the co-developer of the Protect, Provide, Prepare parenting and relationship program for fathers. He is in private practice in Santa Rosa and San Rafael. To sign up or for more information and cost, contact Stuart Mitchell at: stuartmit@gmail.com.

NEW LIFE FOR YOUR OLD EYEGLASSES

Those old eyeglasses in your junk drawer are a great gift to someone in Mexico or South America through the **Lions In Sight** collection program. Just put the glasses in the collection box in the church entry and they will be processed and eventually reach an eye glass clinic to help someone improve their vision. Old hearing aids are also in demand.



Here is an opportunity to re-use and recycle at the same time as helping someone in need. If you have any questions about the eyeglass collection program, please ask Jerry Coleman.



MEN'S GROUP

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will continue meeting on Wednesday mornings in March in Faith Chapel at 9 am. For more information contact Steve Beck at 829-0314.

KINDRED GROUPS

You love worship, you love coffee hour, but where do you foster those deeper friendships and closer bonds? In your new Kindred Group! A Kindred Group is a small group within our congregation that is facilitated by a deacon. Your deacon will be calling you shortly to set up the first gathering of your Kindred Group.

What will Kindred Groups do?

- *Gather a few times a year to eat together, play together, and pray together.*
- *Care for each other. When you are in need of food during an illness or you need a ride to church or an appointment, you will have a network of support through your Kindred Group.*
- *Serve together. Each Sunday, a different Kindred Group will take on the responsibility to be ushers, greeters, and lay readers. Your group will have this responsibility about 3 Sundays a year.*
- *Welcome new members. When a new person enters our community, they will be assigned a Kindred Group to help them find what they need from the community and to help them find opportunities to serve.*

Be on the lookout for a phone call from your deacon by the end of March!

If you are interested in becoming a deacon to facilitate one of these Kindred Groups or if you have questions about this ministry, please contact Jane Huneke or Lydia Mulkey.

Name Tags?

If your name tag has come up missing, or you don't have a name tag, we'd like to get one for you! And if you already have your name tag, please make a habit of clipping it on to help all of us remember your name!



To get a new or replacement name tag, print C L E A R L Y the first and last name you would like to see on your church name tag. Leave this request in the church office or collection plate:

First Name _____

Last Name _____



MISSION & OUTREACH

Mission & Outreach has changed their meeting night and will now meet on the 2nd Monday of the month. Their next meeting will be on Monday, March 7 at 7 PM in the Fireside Room.

2016 ADULT MISSION TRIP TO WEED

Interested in working in Weed, California, from June 19-25 to help work on recovery from the Boles Fire of 2014? Anyone over the age of 15 is invited to sign up for the Adult Mission Trip working with Habitat for Humanity to help with the rebuilding process. Both skilled and unskilled workers are welcome. You must be able to work in a hot environment and tolerate group living.

Applications are in the church office and now is the time to sign up and pay the \$250 fee. There will be a meeting at 9:30 AM on March 6 in the Media Room to discuss details.

SATURDAY TABLE

On the second Saturday of each month, Mission & Outreach serves lunch in Fellowship Hall to our local homeless population. In addition to offering a hot meal, we also offer showers, laundry vouchers and bus passes. If you would like to contribute to this effort, there are several ways to help:

- ❖ *Cash and check can be made out to the Community Church and designated for the homeless lunch*
- ❖ *Soaps, shampoos and conditioner in sample or motel sizes*
- ❖ *Thick tube socks, sweat shirts, jackets, etc.*
- ❖ *Men's walking/athletic shoes or boots*
- ❖ *Tarps, rain ponchos, back packs*
- ❖ *Disposable razors and shaving cream*
- ❖ *Packaged toothbrushes & toothpaste*
- ❖ *Hand sanitizer, Chapstick, insect repellent and sun screen*

SNACK BAGS

Mission & Outreach invites you to participate in our Snack Bag program where we provide snack items to those who might not know where their next meal is coming from. Single servings of crackers, peanut butter, juice, tuna, canned fruit and other snack items, can be brought to the church office.

Memorial Lilies will grace our chancel on Easter Morning, March 27. If you would like to order one of these beautiful living plants, please fill out the order form below and drop it into the collection plate along with your check. You may also leave this form and your payment in the church office. The cost of each plant is \$10.00. Please make your check payable to the Community Church.

DEADLINE TO ORDER EASTER LILIES: MARCH 21

I wish to purchase _____ lily plant(s) \$_____ Enclosed
(\$10 each plant)

This lily is In Memory of _____

– OR –

This lily is In Honor of _____

Given by (your name) _____

_____ I plan to take my lily plant home after Easter

_____ Please deliver my lily plant to a shut-in.



THE DEADLINE TO ORDER EASTER LILIES IS MARCH 21

Fact: Sunday Mornings are Volunteer Intensive
Query: How Can You Share Your Time?

The Diaconate Board needs your assistance in filling sixteen positions every Sunday. (This does not include Sunday School.) Your gift of time will be a valuable contribution to the warm, welcoming climate of our church. Please consider this an opportunity to put your faith in action and serve the Lord and our Church.

Please complete the following form and drop it in the offering plate or in the church office. We'll add you to the calendar for the dates you have indicated.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

I am able to help Sundays on:

Mar 6____ Mar 13____ Mar 20____

Mar 27 - **Easter Sunday**: 9 am____ 11 am____

April 3 ____ April 10____ April 17____ April 24____

On the Sundays indicated above, I could:

- ____ be an usher
- ____ be the head usher for a Sunday
- ____ greet at the front door
- ____ be a Lay Reader
- ____ drive people to church in my car
- ____ call on shut-ins ____ be an Acolyte (Children 7-14)
- ____ help with Communion set up ____ help with Coffee Hour
- ____ I can also help with memorial receptions on occasion
- ____ with new members and be a New Member Shepherd



Committee for Adult Education
2016 Faith Journey & Soup Suppers

Each year during Lent, we gather on Tuesday evenings to share in a simple soup supper and then hear one of our church members share his/her story and how faith has helped to shape that story. Easter is March 27 and we are meeting on the five Tuesday evenings during Lent, starting February 16 through March 15.



We start in Fellowship Hall at 6:15 for the soup supper and then move to Faith Chapel at 7 PM for the faith journey. Over the years, this has proven to be a meaningful experience for all who attend and a wonderful way to build community. Your participation will make this event even more special.

Our March Faith Journey presenters of the Lenten Season:

March 1	Lydia Mulkey
March 8	Leslie Wood
March 15	Gene Nelson

In addition to planning the faith journey portion of the program, we are also looking to sign up soup makers for each of the five Tuesday evenings. Sign up with Glenda Elvy to bring a soup, or sign up in the church office or send an email to office@uccseb.org.

Lenten Reflection and Communion Services

Lent invites us into a season of turning.

What are we turning from and what are we turning towards?

You are invited to consider these and other questions during the Lenten Reflection and Communion Services. On Sunday mornings during Lent, Pamela Downie will lead a reflection time from 9:20-10:00 in Faith Chapel. Communion will be offered from 10:00-10:10. Dates for this special service are 2/21, 2/28, 3/6 and 3/13. All are welcome to participate in the reflection and/or communion. Please email Pamela if you have questions: InternPamela@uccseb.org.



Thank YOU ♦ Thank YOU ♦ Thank YOU ♦ Thank YOU

☺ Thank you to Bob Holland for taking care of our roses – his work now will make them look even better next summer! ☺ Thanks also to Barbara Whitson for her continued work in the gardens. ☺ Thank you to Joyce Cox, Chris Jenkins, Bobbie Johanson, Joanne Matson and Janet Minton for the office help – greatly appreciated! ☺ Thank you to the hard working crew who worked two Saturdays to recover the blue padded chairs, found all over the church, but mostly in Fellowship Hall. Led by Kathy Matthies and Linda Roa, the group also included Bobbie Johanson, Karin Seder, Keith Blackstone, Joyce Cox, Judy Peterson, Jane Huneke, Barbara Whitson and Marge Holland as well as Vicki Reno and Barbara Briggs Ledson from the UkeStars and Donna, Al, Mel and Larry from the 12-step group. Once we figured out the plan of attack and got a rhythm going, we worked like a well-oiled machine! ☺



Thank YOU ♦ Thank YOU ♦ Thank YOU ♦ Thank YOU



WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY

Two of the five original all-wood window frames from Pilgrim House (as seen at left) are a treasure that can be yours for the highest bid! Imagine creating your

own vignette, room divider or... who knows! The ideas are endless and you would have a one-of-a-kind memento from a bygone era – own a piece of Pilgrim House and submit your bid today!

Local artist and church member Paula Pearce provided a watercolor of an apple tree that Chris Jenkins placed with another of the framed windows to commemorate Pilgrim House – that now hangs in the Media Room.

Bidding for two more windows is now open – find the bid sheet in the church office, or call 823-2484 ext. 100 to add your bid. A money raised will go towards paying down the mortgage.

LENTEN ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

THE EVOLVING ROLE OF LEADERSHIP

MARCH 9 ♦ MARCH 23 ♦ MARCH 30

Mark your calendars for our exciting Lenten Adult Education series. “The Evolving Role of Leadership” will explore both the current and future state of public service with three key Sonoma County leaders. Join us for an opportunity to talk with a Sonoma County Leader (TBA) on Wednesday, March 9th at 7:15 in the Sanctuary. Other speakers will include District Attorney Jill Ravitch on March 23rd and 5th District Supervisor Efren Carrillo on March 30th. There is no charge for this series and all are welcome to attend what is sure to be a series of enlightening events.

March 6 at the Community Church of Sebastopol

WILL YOU GIVE TO

March 6
One Great Hour
OF SHARING
Community Church

2 Corinthians 8:13-15 www.onegreathourofsharing.org

God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

The logo of the United Church of Christ, featuring a cross inside a circle with the words "UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST" around it.

The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women’s empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place. Please give generously on March 6 when our church receives the OGHS offering.

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:20 AM Lenten Reflection & Communion Service 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (Fireside Room) 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry	29	1 6:15 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Faith Journey	2 9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir	3 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	4 10:00 AM UkeStars	5 8:30 AM Chair Recover Project
6 4th Sunday of Lent One Great Hour of Sharing 9:20 AM Lenten Reflection & Communion 9:30 AM Adult Mission Trip Meeting 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (Fireside Room) 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth 5:00 PM BINGO Fund Raiser 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth	7 7:00 PM Mission & Outreach	8 6:15 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Faith Journey	9 9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:15 PM Lenten Education Series	10 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Executive 10:30 AM Women's Fellowship Program 11:15 AM Women's Fellowship Meeting 12:00 PM Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	11 10:00 AM UkeStars	12 11:30 AM 2nd Saturday Lunch
13 5th Sunday of Lent 9:20 AM Lenten Reflection & Communion 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (Fireside Room) 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 11:45 AM Impressions of Cuba 4:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth	14	15 6:15 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Faith Journey	16 9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting	17 5 PM Sebastopol Senior Center St. Patty's Dinner in Memorial Hall 7:00 PM CE Meeting 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	18 10:00 AM UkeStars	19
20 Palm Sunday 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (Fireside Room) 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth	21 7:00 PM Father's Group	22	23 9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:30 PM Church Council 7:15 PM Lenten Education Series	24 MAUNDY THURSDAY 10 AM & 1 PM Women's Fellowship Circle Meetings 5 PM Youth Foot Washing & Communion at Doran Beach 6:15 PM Soup Supper in Fellowship Hall 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service -Chapel 7 PM Grief Group 7:45 PM Chancel Choir	25 GOOD FRIDAY 10:00 AM UkeStars 12-3 PM Quiet Meditation in Faith Chapel 5 PM Children & Youth Cemetery Visit	26 HOLY SATURDAY 11 AM Egg Hunt at Ragle Park Peace Garden
27 EASTER SUNDAY 6:30 AM Sunrise Service 9:00 AM Easter Service 11:00 PM Easter Service	28	29	30 9:00 AM Men's Group 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:15 PM Lenten Education Series	31 7:00 PM Grief Group	1 10:00 AM UkeStars	2