

# SALT & LIGHT

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

**The Community Church of  
Sebastopol**  
United Church of Christ  
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www.uccseb.org  
office@uccseb.org

**Lead Minister**  
Rev. Dr. Benjamin J. Broadbent

**Associate Minister of  
Faith Formation**  
Rev. Lacey Hunter

**Associate Minister of  
Congregational Care**  
Rev. Rachel Knuth

**Handbell Ensemble Director**  
Karna Roa

**Keyboardist**  
J. Althea

**Congregational  
Administrator**  
Chris Chang Weeks

**Bookkeeper**  
Deanna Euritt

**Custodian**  
Maria Mojica

**Pastor Emeritus**  
Rev. Gene Nelson



### **We Will All Be Newcomers**

Rev. Benjamin Broadbent, Lead Minister

*“When someone you haven’t seen in ten years appears at the door,  
don’t start singing them all your new songs. You will never catch up.”*

– Naomi Shihab Nye<sup>1</sup>, *The Art of Disappearing*

A glow on the horizon. That’s how I’ve been describing it. The possibility of return. The promise of renewed togetherness. I can feel my body aching for it. Is it an ache or is it giddiness? I followed a calling to ministry so that I could be with people, and that is what I’m looking forward to getting back to. “Looking forward to getting back to” – that’s some odd syntax. Isn’t it one or the other? Going forward or going back?



Who knows what it will be like when we start to meet in person again? Some things will have stayed the same, but other things will have changed. Imagine how much the children and youth of our church have changed in the past year. Of course, this happens every year, but we scarcely notice it when we see them every week.

There will be members of our community whom we won’t see. This will include church members who have died – 7 in the past 12 months. It will include folks who have moved away, including several families with small children. It will also include some who have disengaged from church life for a variety of reasons and won’t

find their way back.

And there will be new people. We’ll finally get to meet Nico, star of post-worship Zoom, born a month before the pandemic hit. And we’ll meet the new people who have sought out our community during this time of Covid-19. And perhaps others whose bodies ache to be with other bodies will join us to offer thanksgiving and praise to God who remains God through it all.

In the post-resurrection stories, Jesus’ body both is and isn’t the same body that min

<sup>1</sup> Naomi Shihab Nye is a poet of Palestinian and American descent. Her poem, “The Art of Disappearing” can be found here.

## MAY 2021 WORSHIP

2021 Easter Season Theme: "Practicing Resurrection"

Community worship happens Sundays at 10:30 a.m. online via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83296554538>

You may also view the livestream at: <https://www.facebook.com/uccseb>

See weekly emails or visit [www.uccseb.org](http://www.uccseb.org) for more details.



### May 2 – 5th Sunday of Easter

We continue through the 50-day season of Easter and share Holy Communion on this first Sunday of the month. Rev. Dr. Benjamin J. Broadbent, Lead Minister, preaches a sermon, "Dare to Abide," on Jesus' self-description as the vine, and of his disciples as the branches, in John 15: 1 – 8.

### May 9 – 6th Sunday of Easter / Mothers' Day

Today Pastor Benjamin preaches a sermon on John 15: 9 – 17, a passage in which Jesus gives his disciples a new commandment, "to love one another as I have loved you." Is love command-able? Is it possible to love each other as Jesus loves us?

### May 13 – Ascension Day

Today Christians celebrate Jesus' ascension 40 days following his resurrection. This year today is a special day for Muslims as well. It is Eid al-Fitr, the end of the fasting month of Ramadan.

### May 16 – 7th Sunday of Easter / Faith Formation Sunday

Today Pastor Lacey will lead a liturgy in celebration of all who offered their gifts by leading and participating in this year's faith formation ministries. The gospel text, John 17:6-19 invites us to explore what we understand "truth" to mean, and how we are formed by God's truth.

### May 23 – Pentecost Sunday

Today we hear the story of the Holy Spirit descending upon the church, disrupting it, energizing it, and sending it in to the world. Pastor Benjamin preaches a sermon on the story of the valley of dry bones in Ezekiel 37: 1 – 14, entitled "New Life for Old Bones." We will also be receiving the Strengthen the Church Special Offering of our denomination, the United Church of Christ.

### May 30 – Trinity Sunday / Human Sexuality Sunday

The first Sunday after Pentecost is also known as Trinity Sunday. This year, Pastor Lacey and the Our Whole Lives Steering Team offer a liturgy focused on human sexuality. Our congregation will be blessing participants in this year's "Taking Flight" course for 8th and 9th graders. Together we will explore the theological beauty of a triune God who is understood through relationship with others.

**Coming in June...** Hybrid In-Person Outdoor/Online Worship?, Covid Creativity Expo, Fathers' Day, Open & Affirming Sunday, New Members Join, 64th Anniversary of the United Church of Christ,



## **Faith Formation: A year of COVID formation**

by Pastor Lacey, Associate Minister of Faith Formation

As of May, my partner Sharon and I will be fully vaccinated. I can feel in the knowledge that my immediate family is safer, a deep longing and urgency to be in the presence of dear ones again, to move through the world with more physical freedom, to enjoy the restaurants and dance clubs and concerts that give me life, to be in-person church again. The grief of what has been absent is there. The longing to have it all back is there.

As Faith Formation Sunday approaches (May 16), I find myself also needing to prayerfully remember what for and how this time has formed me and humanity collectively. Because I do believe this time has formed us to be co-creators of God's kin-dom on earth and I do not want to be even for a day, outside of that formational blessing.

Really and truly how has this time formed you? What truths are now coming to live, move, breathe in you? Here are some of the formational truths that are shaping me:

- A new understanding that "to be the church" means doing everything we can to keep one another alive
- That I can let my heart break and pray for that break to be a teacher of truth
- To make every movement with the understanding that my life is connected to all life
- That, in the words of Octavia E. Butler, "God is Change," and we can and must conspire with God to shape a better world for the freedom of all.

How has this time formed you? What truths are now coming to live, move, breathe in you? ❀

### **COVID Godly Play Faith Formation Reflection**

by Terri Harper

Almost overnight our church family was physically disconnected. I remember how I felt...afraid, lonely, uncertain. Our kids also went through drastic change...no friend time, Zoom school, no in-person church time with our church family, and we can't forget masks for all. We truly were in a wilderness.

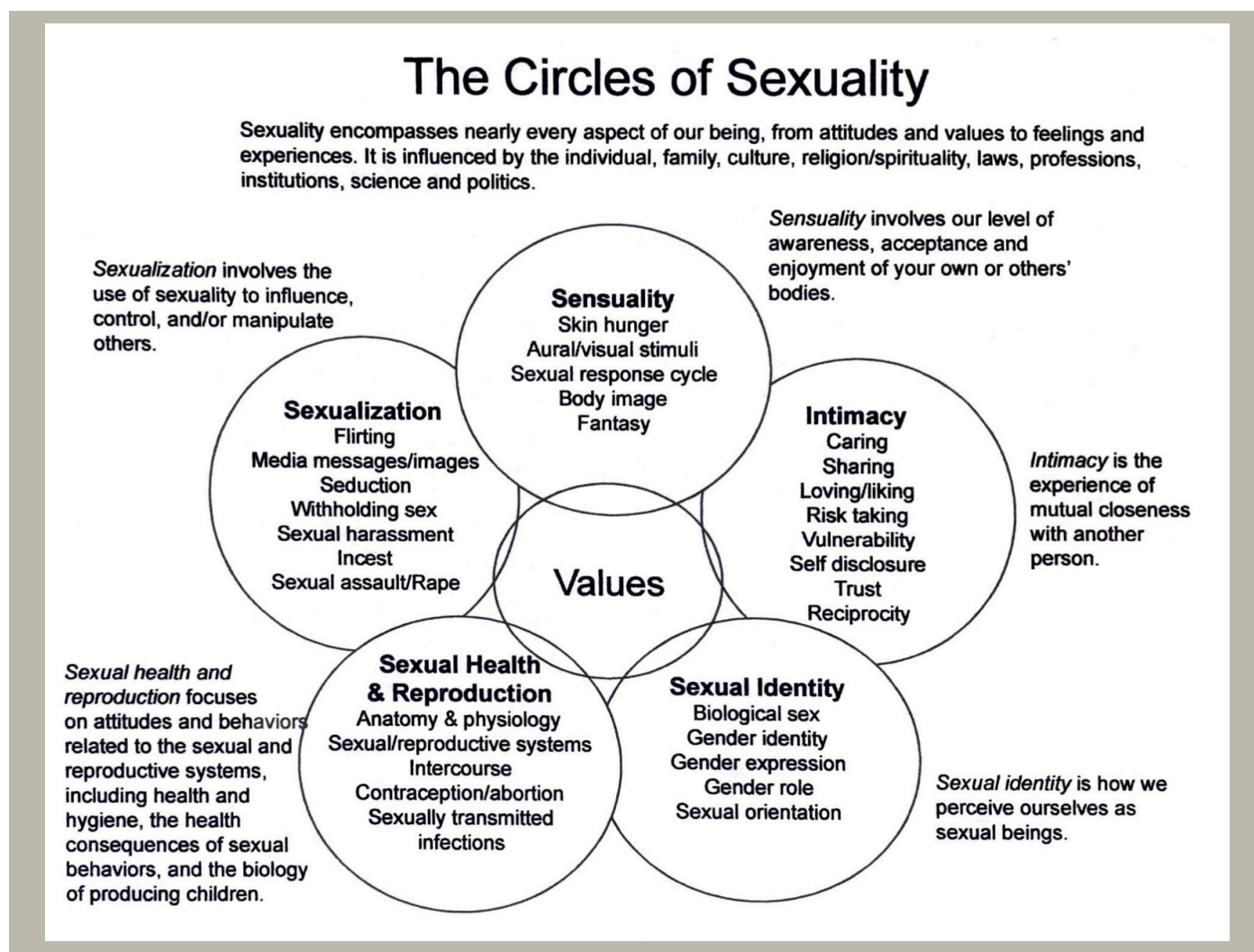
My first at-home Godly play was Holy Week last year. There was a window of time that I was able to go to the church and get some things from the Godly Play room. I picked up the lessons that would get us through Eastertide and Pentecost Sunday. Surely that would be enough. It was challenging to video the stories at home. I was not experienced in using my iPad as a selfie camera. The most difficult part was being involved in the story with no children present. Then we got through Pentecost but no one was allowed on church property. We were in lockdown. I was going to have to wing it with lessons since I didn't have any more Godly Play materials.

Now here we are a year later, still doing Godly Play without children. I moved to the Church grounds and was able to video in the Godly Play room eventually. It had to be just me and the video process was always such a challenge. I didn't know how to edit the videos or splice pieces together, and still don't. So if I wanted to get through a story, I had to let go of the mistakes. I laughed often at my videos. I told Pastor Lacey many times that if there was someone else for the job, I'd be glad to hand it off. She always just encouraged me and continued to support my effort. At some point, (Isn't it all a blur?) Dorothy McKoin and I would put together Wilderness Kits for delivery. We worked together with masks, hand sanitizer, and 6 ft apart. The process has evolved. I picture our children's faces as I video the stories. Dorothy and I have loved delivering the Wilderness Kits, occasionally seeing a familiar face smiling and waving in the window. As I occasionally visit the posted videos and see the number of views, I realize that we have made a difference to our kids one view at a time. I have appreciated the creative brainstorming sessions that have occurred on many Zoom meetings with the members of our Children's Faith Formation Action Team (ChilFFAT). ❀

## **Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education**

by Pastor Lacey, Associate Minister of Faith Formation

Over the past several years, Community Church has been committed to offering yearly opportunities for children and youth to participate in Our Whole Lives (OWL) programs, the faith and sexuality education programs created by the United Church of Christ and Unitarian Universalists. When COVID hit, OWL Headquarters requested that all OWL program be on hold until a safe process for virtual OWL programs could be designed. As of this spring, we were able to engage in just such a curriculum. March –May 2021, Andy Delmonte and I (with the support of Brooke Broadbent-Bell), facilitated a 10-week condensed OWL program called, “Taking Flight” for ten 8th and 9th graders. During this time, we had the honor and privilege of discussing the following topics: Sexuality and Values, Anatomy, Puberty, Body Image, Gender Identity and Expression, Attraction, Sexuality and Disability, Relationships, Bullying and Bystander Responsibilities, Redefining Abstinence, Lovemaking, Consent, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Contraception and Safer Sex Methods, Decision Making, and Communicating with a Sexual Partner. On Trinity Sunday, May 30, our communal worship service will be a celebration of all of this complexity that makes up our understanding of human sexuality and incarnation, and the triune God whose existence we understand as relational. During this service we will honor, celebrate and bless the Taking Flight cohort who committed their time and energy to engaging in this important ministry.



### **Why is OWL So Important?**

As Christians, we believe that our whole selves—mind, body, and spirit—are part of God’s beloved creation.



Therefore, sexuality—how we live in our bodies and in relationship to one another—is an important and sacred source of insight for every individual and community. Our Whole Lives draws upon ritual, practices of self-worth and self-care, and values of justice and inclusivity to create a holistic approach to faith and sexuality education. The goal of OWL is to nurture well-informed, empowered youth who feel good about themselves and their bodies. Participants of OWL gain skills, resources and insight for how to live as sexual beings from a place of “self-worth, sexual health, responsibility, and justice and inclusivity.”

### **Taking Flight Interview with Olivia Stoll**

*Pastor Lacey:* This class was a significant time commitment. Why was it important to you to participate in Taking Flight?

*Olivia:* To me, it was important to participate because I would like to have all of the information that I need to be healthy and safe. I also enjoy the meetings. I like seeing familiar faces and feeling like I am not alone in the awkwardness.

*Pastor Lacey:* What has been meaningful to you about this experience?

*Olivia:* This experience has been meaningful to me in many ways. I love going each week and learning something new. It also means a lot to me to really feel like I am not alone in being an awkward teenager. Most of all, I know that all of this information will help me to make wise decisions when I am older.

*Pastor Lacey:* What is an important learning or question that you are taking with you from this class?

*Olivia:* I will be taking the knowledge that talking about sexuality is normal, and shouldn't be taboo.

*Pastor Lacey:* What was a fun or surprising thing you learned/experienced?

*Olivia:* I really liked some of the exercises, such as the healthy/unhealthy game and the game where we rated things with our fingers. ✿



### ***Make Your Own Mandala Contemplative Workshop: May 22, 10am-12pm***

As a way to support our community's emergence from the pandemic, Pastor Rachel will be offering a series of contemplative workshops in the coming months. Our first workshop will be mandala-making. The geometry of



mandalas can be healing and re-orienting after a time of disorientation. Mandalas are usually circular, with a central point in the middle, and shapes emanating out from the center. Mandalas are ancient symbols found throughout the world, and Christian mandalas can be found in stained glass, celtic illuminated manuscripts, and even a crown of thorns or rosary could be considered a mandala. As we seek to regain our equilibrium (knowing we are forever changed by pandemic life) it can help to refocus on what our central values are and what we want to focus on. In this workshop, we will spend time in contemplative silence, use art supplies to create our own mandalas, and participate in spiritual sharing. We will gather, each at our own tables, in the fountain courtyard. RSVPs are required, and space is limited to 12 participants-- to sign up, please email Pastor Rachel at [pastorrachel@uccseb.org](mailto:pastorrachel@uccseb.org) by May 14th. ✿

## **Care Note from Pastor Rachel**

Dear Friends,

I am beginning to drive my children to activities again, which has afforded me more 'alone time' in the car, even if it's only the ten minute drive home from town. On one of these trips last month, I heard part of an interview with Jazz composer Terence Blanchard. He was one of the nominees for Best Original Score at this year's Oscars, for his work on Spike Lee's "Da 5 Bloods." The film follows four Black Vietnam War veterans who return to Vietnam to search for a treasure they buried there during the war. Like most Spike Lee movies, "Da 5 Bloods" operates on several levels-- it's a commentary on Vietnam War movies, a tribute to Black soldiers in Vietnam, and a critique of the pain inflicted upon Black veterans in particular. Terence Blanchard grew up in New Orleans and was surrounded by music in his household and town, everything from opera (his father was an opera singer) to classical to jazz. He has written music for a number of Spike Lee films. But what really stuck with me in the interview I heard was when he said he was aiming to honor Black Vietnam Vets through his music.



Terry Blanchard

I could imagine him watching the film without any music, seeing the actors, and experiencing the feeling of the film. When one of the characters starts to break down in the film, Blanchard says, "I kept saying to myself, writing the music for that, 'Don't blow that vibe. Don't blow the rhythm of that. Don't come in too early. Don't come in too late,'" he says. "'Just try to be right with Delroy and he's showing you what the scene needs. Just follow his lead.'"

Just follow his lead.

It made me think of the craft of ministry and pastoral care, and how staying right with someone in the listening, is so important. It made me think of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, asking his disciples to stay and pray. It made me think of the deep and sacred listening that happens in silent prayer.

Terence Blanchard offers his gifts as a musician and composer to accompany films. Likewise, I wonder how we might offer our gifts to accompany God's movement in our lives and our world? What would it mean to try to stay with God in God's rhythm? Perhaps God is showing us what our scene needs, if we can just try to follow God's lead. This month I'm thinking about how to listen more deeply to people and relationships, and the rhythm of God. I invite you to listen with me.

Warmly,  
Pastor Rachel  
Associate Minister of Congregational Care

## Noonday Prayer... Closing the Parentheses



Our Noonday Prayer program has come to a close, after a year of contemplative prayer together. The Noonday Prayer group spent a half-hour in prayer every Tuesday for the past year, sinking in to silence and offering prayers on behalf of others. We have listened to scripture, the Holy Spirit, and one another, with the "ear of the heart." We explored silent meditation, spiritual sharing, the Examen of St. Ignatius, and were guided by scriptures, especially the Psalms. We learned there is no perfect way to pray-- the best way to pray is the way that brings us closer to God.

We also learned that God's first language is... silence. One of our practices was to hold silence for five minutes. Sometimes five minutes felt like a long time, and sometimes it went by quickly. Almost always there was a palpable sense of the Holy Spirit in our midst, even though we were gathered on our computers and not in the same physical space. To support our prayer in this five minutes, we would often choose a "sacred word" to return to when our minds inevitably drift, and relied on that sacred word to draw us back into prayer. The sacred word is not a mantra repeated over and over, but more like a "nudge" to come back from thoughts and return to relational silence. This is a practice that anyone can do at home, at any time. Simply set a timer for five minutes, or a realistic time-frame that is right for you (it's about relationship not perfection!). Then close your eyes, and ask God to be with you as you sit in silence. When your mind wants to think thoughts, say your sacred word to remind your mind to come back into prayer. It gets easier as you practice! ✨

Pastor Rachel



## April Wine Tasting Was a Success!

We are so grateful to Andrea Card, Director of Winemaking at Francis Ford Coppola Winery, for sharing her expertise at our second zoom-tastic pandemic wine tasting. And thanks to Andrea's Mom, Pat Furber, for organizing the wine pick-up at her home. We had over 20 people join in this evening of wine tasting. Andrea taught us more about wine bouquet, flavors we might smell or taste, and answered many far-flung questions--from "how does smoke impact a grape harvest?" to "what percentage of wines can be mixed without adding it to a label?" to "how does a winemaker adjust alcohol content?" to "is it snobby to drink out of a port sipper?" There was a lot of camaraderie and education all around. Thanks to Andrea, Pat, and all the participants for a great evening! ✨



## **LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY - April 21, 2021**

Summary of what was accomplished during the Leadership Council Meeting:

- ◇ Talked about the BLM Visionary team and contacting them to learn more about them
- ◇ Discussed Pastor Ben's sabbatical in 2022
- ◇ Reviewed what we liked and could change about LC meetings
- ◇ Financial report - we ended with a positive net result of \$55K since revenue was ahead of budget, and expenses were less than budget.

Decisions and agreements made:

- ◇ Agreed to continue to trial the consensus model for decision making
- ◇ Committed support to Enmanji Temple

For discussion in the future:

- Safe Church Policy for Approval (Larrell) - an updated policy will be presented in the next meeting
- Safe Return - Commence in-person outside worship in the courtyard this summer and we hope to move to the Sanctuary in the Fall
- Pastor Ben's Sabbatical
- Leadership Council Retreat in June
- LC meeting criteria and priorities

The congregation is invited to discuss these items as well as any other issues, concerns, ideas or appreciations to any of the Council Members. The Council Members are:

Robert Curtis – Moderator

Kathy Bell – Council Officer for Personnel

John Henel – Council Officer for Finances

Tom Terry – Council Officer for Facilities

Joyce Cox – Council Member for Outreach

Larell Fineren – Council Member for Faith Formation

Kathy Matthies – Council Member for Care and Fellowship

Linda Roa – Council Member for Worship and Arts

Danelle Tognozi - Clerk ☸

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### **We Will All Be Newcomers**

Continued from page 1

istered for three years in Galilee. His body still bears the wounds of the crucifixion, still hungers for broiled fish and human contact, still walk and talks and makes breakfast. But now his body comes and goes, appears and disappears, surprises and astounds. It's the same body and it's an entirely new body.

The same thing happens to the early community at Pentecost. They are an old body of believers made new by the breath of God. That must have been a tumultuous 57 days between Palm Sunday and Pentecost. What an exasperating mixture of hope and defeat, of heartbreak and amazement, of joy and disbelief. "Wait here," Jesus told them, "in Jerusalem, until I send my Spirit upon you."

In a sense, we are still waiting, or we are always waiting, for God's renewing Spirit to be breathed upon us again, to make this old body a new one. Old wounds are still visible, but so are new abilities that were previously unimaginable. When we return, we will all be newcomers. Our life as a community will never be the same, and "not being the same" is exactly what I think we're being called to embrace.<sup>2</sup> ☸



## ***Bats in the Sanctuary***

By Chris Chang Weeks



Camera from Wildlife Rescue



Cleanrth Sound Repellent



Setup in the Sanctuary

At least one member of the church has spotted bats in the sanctuary. The bats have also left evidence in the form of brown pellets on the pews and floor. Bat guano, also known as black gold, is highly valued by gardeners, but poses an exasperating problem for Maria Mojica, our custodian. The bats are not new guests. Gene Nelson said they used to come years ago, but they stayed for only a couple of weeks. Ours have been around since March. We became aware of their presence when the burglar alarm sounded in the wee hours several times during a two-week period.

No doubt they find the sanctuary to be a peaceful habitat, especially during these quiet times of Covid. The technical term of ridding bats is “bat exclusion.” Bats can crawl into a space as small as a dime. The typical solution is to find their point of entry, and create a one-way door. The pitch of the church roof with its swooping curved lines poses a challenge in locating the entry and installing netting. Furthermore, Tom Terry warns that if the skylights at the top of the roof are touched, the roof may no longer be watertight. Climbing to the sanctuary ceiling from the inside is just as daunting, and may not be accessible, even with a hydraulic lift.

The bats are probably migratory cave bats. A single bat can eat up to 500 insects each hour they feed in the evening. They use ultrasonic sound, called echolocation, to locate their food. They typically have their pups once a year in late May – June. During that time, depending on the species, they may be under State and Federal protection, and cannot be removed.

If you have been in the sanctuary recently, you may have noticed two strange looking devices. Wildlife Rescue had lent us a camera, that was mounted on the top of a pew, to confirm that we have bats. No sightings were made during the four days the camera was installed. The other is a Cleanrth Electronic Sound Pest Repelling System. According to the instructions, it will take 3-4 weeks to be bat-free. The level of guano has decreased. We are hopeful that all the bats will leave the sanctuary before mating season. If not, we will have to wait until the Fall to try a different bat exclusion method. ❁



## Opportunities for Community Involvement

By Joyce Cox



Are you interested in:

- o Immigrant Defense
- o Justice for the Environment
- o Police Accountability
- o Renter's Rights

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, you may be interested in joining one of the task forces of the North Bay Organizing Project. Below is a brief description of each. If you would like to find out more information or join a task force, please contact Joyce Cox b-j-cox@att.net or go to [www.northbayop.org](http://www.northbayop.org).

**Immigrant Defense Task Force:** This task force was formed after the fires and has worked to make sure that emergency information is available in Spanish. They have had input on the county's Framework for Resiliency and Recovery and now are working to ensure that the recommendations are implemented.

**Justice for the Environment Task Force:** The wildfires have highlighted the impact of current environmental practices on the poorest and most vulnerable people. This task force has spearheaded a campaign for the Rights of Nature which identifies ecosystems not as property, but as entities that have a right to exist and flourish. If we can change our mind set, we can change our practices.

**Police Accountability:** This is a new task force that is just now formulating it's goals.

**Sonoma County Tenant's Union:** This organization has become the housing arm of the North Bay Organizing Project. If you are interested in tenant's rights, you may be interested in this group. ☸



## Support to Asian Owned Businesses in Sebastopol

By Joyce Cox

The West County Rapid Response group has visited Asian owned businesses in Sebastopol and gave them this flyer. The response was wonderful and they really appreciated our support. We were surprised that there are at least 28 businesses in the Sebastopol area! Our church participates in West County Rapid Response which is part of the North Bay Organizing Project. ☸

### ***We support and are in solidarity with the Asian and Pacific Islander residents of Sebastopol!***

- \* We see you. We value you. We stand with you.
- \* We affirm that Asian people and Pacific Islanders are valued and celebrated community members.
- \* We grieve murders in Atlanta, attacks in the Bay Area and hate mail in Healdsburg.
- \* We stand up against bigotry and white supremacy.
- \* We encourage people to patronize local Asian and Pacific Islander businesses.

**REPORT incidents of hate speech and violence in 18 different languages to the Sonoma County Human Rights Visibility Project. Please widely distribute this link: [scohrvp.org/incident-report](https://scohrvp.org/incident-report)**

*West County Rapid Response Network, an immigration rights group, part of North Bay Organizing Project*

## ***Handel, Handbells... And a One-Armed Paper-Hanger,... I Mean, Organist!***

By Judy Kinsey

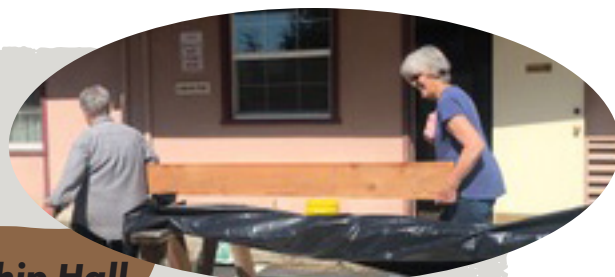
Last September, as fire headed our way and the pandemic raged, I was suddenly one morning jolted out of my usual routine by the knowledge that my right hand and arm were not working. I had had a stroke! Fast forward through an Emergency Room and hospital visit. I spent three very long, isolated, scary weeks in rehab in Oakland.

One of the shining moments during that time was a call from Pastor Benjamin giving me comfort and hope, telling me he wanted me to use our beautiful Community Church pipe organ as a "therapy tool" and that he looked forward to at least hearing my left hand playing again soon.

Another wonderful call was from Karna and Linda Roa. I loved hearing their voices and certainly appreciated the encouragement, but it was many weeks before I could face even hearing a piano play, thinking my abilities were lost to me forever. But Karna quietly persisted, for which I am eternally grateful! In spite of my not believing it would work, she made music happen! She put together piano, handbells, and a one-handed organist playing "The Hallelujah Chorus" for Easter Sunday!

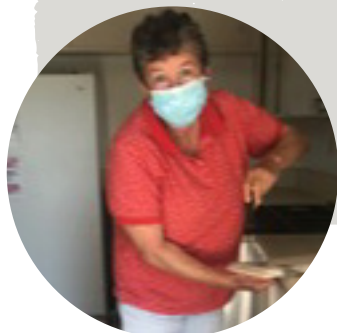
What a gift! To be able to envision what a piece will eventually sound and look like is amazing in itself. And to have the patience and the know-how to put it all together is astounding. We recorded the left hand all alone, then layered another track of the same hand playing another part, then another recording of my feet running up and down the pedals. Then Karna added piano and bells. Wow!

But the biggest blessing for me was she gave me back myself and enabled me to give back to others again. My whole life has been spent using music to praise God - I don't know how else to live! - and I feel so blessed to have had another opportunity to do that, especially in our caring community. It's wonderful to be here, wonderful to be alive, and very, very wonderful to make music. Thank you, Pastor Benjamin, and thank you, Karna. ☸



### ***Fresh paint in Fellowship Hall***

A HUGE thank you to the painting crew of Larell Fineran, Nancy Shimetz, Judy Peterson, Joyce Cox, Judy Davison, Roger Wilson and Jane Huneke for refreshing the Fellowship Hall kitchen and annex with a new coat of paint. It looks so much cleaner and ready for our in person gatherings when the church opens back up. ☸





## **Conestoga Hut Update**

By Joyce Cox

We are looking into the possibility of building two Conestoga Huts as temporary shelter for two people in our church parking lot. Each insulated hut fits in a single parking place, has a window, locking door, bed and small table. They have no water, lights, or heat. They will give 2 selected safe parkers a bed to sleep in and a place to leave some of their belongings. They will be subject to the same rules as the safe parkers (plus a few extra ones). They will be able to stay there for up to a year, must keep everything inside their car or hut, and be gone during the daytime.

Each hut costs \$2,500. The good news is that a church member has donated money for one complete hut. If you would like to donate towards the second hut, please send your donation to the church marked *Conestoga Hut*. Our hope is that many people will participate in the funding of this project. No donation is too small or too large. The other good news is Chris Dawson has agreed to head up the building team. We will be looking for builders in the near future.

We are currently talking to several organizations to find the right fit to vet the participants and work with them to move on into more permanent housing.

Here is a picture of 2 huts in Oregon. Ours will likely be in the parking lot between the cargo container and the shed.





# CAMP TAMARACK

## SUMMER 2021

Junior Camp (Entering 4th-6th Grade): July 18-24

Jr. High Camp (Entering 7th-9th Grade): July 25-31

Sr. High Camp (Entering 10th Grade- 2021 HS Graduate): Aug 1-7



Register Now at  
**CampTam.com!**  
Early Bird discount  
expires May 1st!



Activities include:

- Progressive Faith-Based Programming\*
- Hiking
- Swimming
- Arts and Crafts
- Sports and Games
- Music and Dancing

\*Camp Tamarack is associated with the Northern California Nevada Conference, United Church of Christ. You do not need to be a member of any church or even identify as a Christian to attend camp!



Camp Tamarack will be implementing COVID-19 precautions based on CDC, American Camp Assoc. and Fresno County Dept. of Health Guidelines

### Camp Tamarack Reflection

by Beth Larssen

There are three UCC camps in California: Cazadero, Tamarack (east of Fresno) and Pilgrim Pines (east of Los Angeles), each a beautiful mountain site, but with individual personalities. I've been lucky enough to have been to all three.

Camp Tamarack is in a forest, 7,000 feet up in the Sierras, with streams, hiking trails in the camp; and two lakes nearby. It is easy to walk around the camp. There is a lodge with a fireplace and kitchen. We sleep in tents on wooden platforms and the central restrooms have hot showers. And NO poison oak! Summer days are warm with chilly nights.

### Welcome Home to Camp Tam!

#### 2021 Camp Dates:

Jr. Camp: July 18 - 24

Jr. High: July 25 - 31

Sr. High: Aug. 1-7

Camp Tamarack is currently seeking staff for all positions at all camps!

#### We need:

- Directors
- Chaplains
- Health Supervisors
- Counselors

2021 Staff Application can be found at  
[bigredchurch.org/camptam/](http://bigredchurch.org/camptam/)

Our Camp Caz siblings are welcome and encouraged to apply!

Questions, Comments, Concerns? Please contact Erica Holland at  
[office@bigredchurch.org](mailto:office@bigredchurch.org) or 559-227-8489

Camp Tamarack will be implementing COVID-19 precautions and regulations based on American Camp Association and CDC guidelines.

## May Birthdays

1	Taylor Christy	7	Joe Williams	14	Eva Stevens	23	Rian Sanderson
1	Gene Koch	9	Jenna Canfield	14	Andie Polley	24	Jeff Kalembe
2	Debby McLeod	9	Emerson Dowdney	15	Mike Moore	28	Bill Phillips
2	Callen Warner	10	Amanda Bachelor	16	Will Stoll	29	Nathan Foster
3	Lisa Gonzalez	10	Lisa Dawson	16	Meghan Mark	29	Kristen McKoin
4	Dave Bell	10	Judy Peterson	17	Marilyn Lerum	29	Peg Roush
4	Russell Albin	10	Solveig Davidson	17	Carol Holder	29	Celia Cummings
4	Liliana Bloom	10	Emilie Jame	17	Bob Curtis	29	Gavin Christy
5	Genia Thorhaug	10	Forrest Templin	18	Andrea Card	30	Nic Rocha
5	Stacie Del Carpio	11	Dale Dougherty	18	Olivia Wheeler	31	Corinne Ford
5	Prudy Tucker	11	Muriel Weaver	19	Morgan Thomas	31	Mary Coleman
6	Danielle Berndt	11	Debbie Stewart	21	Barbara Deedler	31	Isaiah Sawyer
7	Rosemary Manchester	12	Marilyn McHugh	21	Maryssa Lovejoy	31	Linda Burkoff-Lee
7	Michael Bloom	13	Mark Albin	21	Stephanie Camara		
7	Zebulon Young	13	Jackie Bordessa	22	Megan Ford		



## Events in May at Community Church

Most in person gatherings at Community Church are suspended. Check our online calendar at <https://uccseb.org/Calendar.php> for updates when changes are made to the Shelter-in-Place order for Sonoma County.

May 2	5th Sunday of Easter, 10:30 a.m., Zoom Conversation with the Bible, 9:15 a.m., Zoom Music & Arts Visioning Process, 11:45 a.m., Zoom Joint Middle & High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m., Zoom
May 4	Grounds Team, 9:00 a.m., church campus Men's Discussion Group, 11:30 p.m., Fountain Courtyard Handbell Ensemble, 4:30 p.m. Zoom Taking Flight, 8-9th grade, 5:00 p.m., Zoom
May 5	Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Women's Bible Study, Fountain Courtyard Handbell Ensemble, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary
May 6	Handbell Ensemble, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary Chancel Choir Gathering, 7:00 p.m., Zoom
May 8	Second Saturday Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Bell Tower Courtyard
May 9	6th Sunday of Easter/ Mother's Day, 10:30 a.m., Zoom Conversation with the Bible, 9:15 a.m., Zoom Music & Arts Visioning Process, 11:45 a.m., Zoom Pastor-Parish Relations Team (Rachel), 12:30 Middle School Youth Group, 4:00 p.m., Zoom High School Youth Group, 7:00 p.m., Zoom
May 11	Grounds Team, 9:00 a.m., church campus Handbell Ensemble, 4:30 p.m. Zoom Pastor-Parish Relations Team (Ben), 5:00 p.m.
May 12	Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Women's Bible Study, Fountain Courtyard Handbell Ensemble, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary



Music & Arts Visioning Process, 6:30 p.m., Zoom  
 Outreach Committee, 7:00 p.m. Zoom  
 May 13 Handbell Ensemble, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
 Chancel Choir Gathering, 7:00 p.m., Zoom  
 May 14 Card Writing Ministry, 1:00 p.m., Zoom  
 May 15 Salt & Light Newsletter Deadline  
 May 16 7th Sunday of Easter, Faith Formation Sunday 10:30 a.m., Zoom  
 Conversation with the Bible, 9:15 a.m., Zoom  
 Music & Arts Visioning Process, 11:45 a.m., Zoom  
 Children's Art Time, 11:45 a.m., Zoom  
 Personnel Committee, 1:30 p.m., Zoom  
 Joint Middle & High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m., Zoom  
 May 18 Grounds Team, 9:00 a.m., church campus  
 Handbell Ensemble, 4:30 p.m. Zoom  
 May 19 Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom  
 Women's Bible Study, Fountain Courtyard  
 Handbell Ensemble, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
 Leadership Council, 6:30 p.m., Zoom  
 May 20 Bell Ensemble, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
 Chancel Choir, 7:15 p.m., Zoom  
 May 22 Mandala Making Workshop, 10:00 a.m. Fountain Courtyard  
 May 23 7th Pentecost Sunday 10:30 a.m., Zoom  
 Conversation with the Bible, 9:15 a.m., Zoom  
 Kinship Time, 11:30 a.m., Zoom  
 May 25 Grounds Team, 9:00 a.m., church campus  
 Handbell Ensemble, 4:30 p.m. Zoom  
 May 26 Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom  
 Women's Bible Study, 10:00 a.m., Fountain Courtyard  
 Handbell Ensemble, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
 May 27 Handbell Ensemble, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
 Chancel Choir Gathering, 7:00 p.m., Zoom  
 May 30 Trinity Sunday/ Sexuality Sunday 10:30 a.m., Zoom  
 Conversation with the Bible, 9:15 a.m., Zoom  
 Kinship Time, 11:30 a.m., Zoom

Suspended until further notice:

- Showers
- UkeStars



The Community Church  
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Sebastopol, CA 95472



# SALT & LIGHT

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

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