

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
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**DATED MATERIAL: DO NOT DELAY**

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DECEMBER  
2012

### *From the Pastor*



Church member, Rosemary Manchester, shared an Advent/Christmas poem with me, a poem written by one of her lifelong friends. The friend's father was a UCC minister. The last stanza of the poem is:

*Christmas always comes at night  
When men are hungriest for light!  
Can Wise Men see a star at noon?  
Can shepherds hear the Angel's tune  
When sun is bright?*

*Christmas comes in deepest dark  
When in despair man sees a spark  
Conquering the night!*

This season, the season of our longest nights, is the season when we in the church dare to speak of that spark that conquers the night, of the Light that shines in the deepest darkness and cannot be overcome.

Speaking of this season, Kathleen Norris has said, "None of us knows what the next change is going to be, what unexpected opportunity is just around the corner, waiting a few months or a few years to change all the tenor of our lives." Or, as the grandmother of one of my UCC colleagues liked to say, the arrival of the Advent and Christmas season gave her the "anticipates". I love that word. It just might make an appearance in upcoming sermons.

I have shared over thirty Advent and Christmas seasons with you. And yet, every year, when I hear the familiar, haunting strains of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," I find myself with a case of the "anticipates". I like the waiting and watching and anticipation of this season. Our days are often as dark as our nights. Anxiety and fear seem to be so all-over-the-place. I worry about our world, I worry about my father, I worry about the church budget, I worry about those of you going through tough and challenging times. But then it's Advent – Advent with its invitation to keep hope and love and faith alive, even when the night is dark and we are far from home. For you just never know when the darkness will become the birthplace of unexpected opportunity, of new life and new possibilities... "just around the corner, waiting to change the tenor of our lives."

*Gene*



A SHARING WITH THOSE IN NEED

Participating in our Parish Care group offers each of us a way to give a gift to our church community by helping those who need a helping hand. Volunteers are comprised of members and friends of the Community Church of Sebastopol, UCC.

The main emphasis of Parish Care services are:

**Visiting** Home visits for those who cannot attend church services

**Transportation** to church services and events, medical appointments, grocery shopping

**Food**, dinners following a hospital stay, or if ill at home, food shopping for the individual

**Miscellaneous** simple cell phone, computer help, pet help or ?

**More Helping Hands** – you can also add your name to a list of persons in our church family who are willing to offer services for hire: handyman, gardening, house cleaning, house painting, window washing, house sitting, etc. Contact Barbara Whitson to add your name to our Helping Hand: Services for Hire, at 575-7811

If you are in need of help or know some one who is, or would like to become a Parish Care volunteer, please contact Barbara Whitson at 575-7811 or the church office at 823-2484.

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## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study will meet in December on Wednesday, December 5 and 12 from 10 AM to 11:15 AM in the Fireside Room. The group will resume meetings on January 9, 2013. For any questions, contact the group facilitator Joanne Matson at 823-5249.



**BIBLE**  
Studies

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, December 6, 13 and 19 at 7:30 AM in the Fireside Room. All men of the church are invited to attend. Rev. Nelson will once again be leading the group.

# Sermons & Scripture December 2012

Advent Sermon Theme:  
Advent Longings

*December 2* THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT LONGINGS: LONGING FOR GOD'S FUTURE

The day is coming says the prophet Jeremiah. The day is coming says the Gospel of Luke. And we are left to ponder...just when will God pull the curtain back on the future?

**Jeremiah 33: 14-16; Luke 21: 25-36**

**Rev. Nelson**

**Communion Sunday**

*December 9* THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On this Second Sunday of Advent Rev. DelMonte will preach.

*December 16* THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT LONGINGS: LONGING FOR ONE TOUGH MASTER?

Can anyone tell, by observing our day to day lives, that we are baptized followers of Jesus? Leave it to John the Baptist to issue the challenge.

**Luke 3: 7-18**

**Rev. Nelson**

*December 23* THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT LONGINGS: LONGING FOR SOME GOOD NEWS

Mary sings of unexpected good news – of a world turned upside down by the coming of the Promised One. And who better to sing the song than an unwed, marginalized, pregnant, peasant woman?

**Luke 1: 39-55**

**Rev. Nelson**

*December 24* CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

6 PM – Family Service

8:30 PM – Classic Service

11 PM – Acoustic Service

*December 30* Rev. Plaughter will preach this morning.

# Alternative Gifts

## GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE

Mission & Outreach will have the Alternative Gift Catalogs available after November 25. The catalogs will also be available in the entryway and in the church office.



The Alternative Gifts International is a collection of gifts to donate products or services to a specific cause. When you make a purchase from the Alternative Gifts catalog, you receive a gift card to present, explaining about the alternative gift you have purchased in their name. Through your Alternative Gifts purchase you can honor your gift recipient by giving someone in desperate need a flock of chickens, eye surgery, a month of care for an orphan or clean water in their name. Choose from a multitude of other wonderful and helpful gifts that will be truly appreciated. Pick up a catalog and let your imagination go!

This Christmas, give the gift of hope – a gift that can change a life! Shop from home and save gas - give from the Church World Service Best Gifts Catalogue.



### FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Families with young children unite! We would like to extend a special welcome to families with young children (10 and younger). Please join us for special activities once a month after church. After having a potluck lunch, our group will either engage in a family-friendly community service project, a family centered activity or family discussions. A childcare provider will be on hand to help entertain the kids so the parents can have a moment to talk too! Please mark your calendars for our next fun-filled Sunday:

**December 9:** Christmas Potluck celebration and toy drive. Bring a potluck dish to share and a new unwrapped toy to donate to a family in need. A special guest will make an appearance!

# Memorial Poinsettias

On December 16 we will grace the church chancel with beautiful Memorial Poinsettias in 6" foil wrapped pots. Please fill out the form below and bring it to the church office or leave in the collection plate with your check. The cost is \$10 per poinsettia plant with checks made payable to the Community Church.

*Deadline for ordering poinsettias is December 10<sup>th</sup>.*

Given in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- or -

Given in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
poinsettia plants. (\$10 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will take my plant home.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please deliver my plant to a shut-in.





New members will be received into The Community Church on Sunday, December 9 during the worship service. If you are interested in church membership or learning more about the Community Church, please contact the church office at 823-2484 or [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org). You may also contact one of our ministers and they will arrange a time to meet with you.

## Christmas Eve Services



### Christmas Eve SERVICES

Our evening Christmas Eve services are always special, with three different, distinctive and very beautiful worship services.

#### 6:00 pm Family Service.

A candlelight service for all ages will feature our Children's Choir and a Christmas Pageant. We will enjoy a joyous celebration that will include the singing of familiar Christmas Carols and concludes with a candlelight recessional to the courtyard. Nursery care will be available for this service only.

8:30 pm A Classic Service. A more "traditional" service, featuring our Chancel and Handbell Choirs. We will also sing familiar carols, hear the Christmas Story and conclude with a candlelight recessional.

11:00 pm Acoustic Christmas Service. Music for this service will be provided by our Acoustic Folk group led by Jan Kahdeman, and friends. We will sing familiar, carols with a different sound and conclude our celebration of the Christ's nativity with our traditional candlelight recessional to the courtyard.

PORCH SPIRIT PRESENTS

## Cool Christmas Classics & Some Frosty Fun!

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE  
**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL**  
2013 SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MISSION TRIP  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 ★ 4PM**  
Sebastopol Community Church, UCC  
1000 Gravenstein Highway North

Bring your kids and grandkids for a late afternoon of fun!

The concert will last about an hour and have lots of fun and interactive songs for the kids as well as Christmas Classics performed by Lizann Bassham, Darryl Fenley, Brian Wetzel, Sonya Krautner and friends.

No admission charge, a free will offering will be collected. Holiday treats will be offered for sale before and after the concert to benefit the Sr. High Youth Mission Trip.

### PLEDGE UPDATE

This Year as of 11/20/2012

Total Households Pledging	62
Operating Fund Pledges	\$157,814

2013 Pledge cards are available on the table in The Narthex. Please give prayerful thought to your financial support of the church for the coming year and send in your pledge card today!



# December Birthdays!



- |    |                        |    |                     |
|----|------------------------|----|---------------------|
| 2  | Jean Polley            | 19 | Jack Dunlap         |
| 3  | Christopher Petersilge |    | Patty Raney         |
| 4  | George Drennon         | 20 | Dick Zimmer         |
|    | Linda Good             |    | Anya Meyskens Paull |
| 6  | Victoria Nelson        | 21 | Lorlei DeSantis     |
| 7  | Alvin Hukins           |    | Maddy Foster        |
|    | Pamela Downie          | 24 | Suzanne Albin       |
|    | Emma Steyn             |    | Bruce Matson        |
| 9  | Nathaniel Felton       | 25 | Morgan Fryer        |
| 10 | Ginny Embry            | 26 | Hunter McLeod       |
| 11 | Jim Jenkins            | 27 | Paula Matzinger     |
|    | Bruce Bragonier        |    | Dylan Lamm          |
|    | Amelia Cassells        | 28 | Mat Keller          |
| 12 | Rowena Kennedy         |    | Jenna Evans         |
|    | David Peterson         |    | Luke Purcell        |
| 13 | Elizabeth Thomas       |    | Josie Malone        |
| 14 | Kaelen Bright          | 29 | Brayden Farnham     |
|    | Marquesa Weigel        | 30 | Joanna Caldwell     |
| 15 | Colby Mayster-Buman    | 31 | Conner Halleck      |
| 18 | Lange Look             |    |                     |

# Happy Birthday!

# Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship will not hold any meetings in December – we will see you again next year!



The Ways & Means Committee, headed by Helen Sokolis, would like to thank all of you who participated and supported the Women's Fellowship fundraiser on November 4. Thank you for those who donated craft items, produce, jams & jellies, plants, bulbs, baked goods and a special thank you for the time spent to create such wonderful items and for the help to make this fundraiser such a great success.

We made over \$1200 that will help us fund our many outreach projects including the Council on Aging, Habitat for Humanity, Hospice, Sebastopol Senior Center, The Living Room, the Food Pantry, church mission trips, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and pledges to the new building fund as well as a yearly pledge to the church operating fund.

Women's Fellowship  
Ways & Means Committee



**Christmas Wreaths** will be available from Women's Retreat to help brighten your holiday décor! Wreaths can be purchased and picked up on December 2 and 9 and all proceeds will benefit the Women's Retreat scholarship fund. Wreaths are \$20 each or purchase 5 or more wreaths for \$18 each. These 22" wreaths are hand made with fresh local greens and include a pretty red bow. Please contact Lisa Dawson if you have any questions or if you need to make other arrangements to pick up your wreaths at 953-9545.

# Between Women Between Women

Intergenerational Gathering

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2012**

**Continental Breakfast 8:40 AM Discussion 9-11 AM**

We invite all women to join us on the **Second Saturday each month** in the Fireside Room for Between Women. Each meeting stands independently, our group is fluid, so whether you can attend every month or just occasionally, you are always welcomed by an intergenerational group of gals. We discuss, we share, we listen, we talk, we eat and we have FUN! Please mark your calendars and reserve the second Saturday of the month for ***Between Women***.

Are you new to the Community Church? Would you like to know more about Between Women? Or perhaps you have a friend you would like to bring to Between Women? ALL women are welcome! For more information, please contact Virginia Hughes at 823-1881.

Minister of Music, Brian Plaughter requests that you take a few moments and jot down the titles of your favorite hymns to help with future worship planning. Please leave this in the collection plate or in the church office.



Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Hymns: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Annual Meeting



On Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, immediately following worship, we will hold our 123<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in Memorial Hall. In addition to receiving our annual committee reports we will also adopt a new budget and elect officers for 2013.

All committee chairs need to turn in their annual report to the church office by January 17, 2013. Please call the church office – 823-2484 – if you have any questions or would like to see copies of previous reports to help you get started.

## CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Choirs are gearing up for Christmas and this is the perfect time for you to join in the fun. Check with our choir directors for rehearsal times and dates. For the Chancel Choir, contact Brian Plaughter at 869-9120; for the Handbell Choir contact Karna or Linda Roa at 823-8378; for the Children's Choir (ages 5-10) call co-directors Andy DelMonte at 824-2878 or Jan Kahdeman at 823-4510. For the Divine Connection, contact Paula Matzinger at 823-7109. And don't forget about the ukuleles – contact Vicki Reno at 827-3668



## ADULT RETREAT

An Adult Retreat, planned for the spring of 2013 is in the works! The retreat is scheduled for March 1-3 at Camp Caz – Adult Education is working on the program and facilitator – if you have any suggestions, please get them the church office at 823-2484 or [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org). More details coming your way soon, but please make plans to attend the retreat – space will be limited to 25 adults.



## MISSION & OUTREACH

The Mission & Outreach Board is once again sponsoring the Christmas Tree as well as the Shoebox Ministry – with a slight change: the shoeboxes will be filled for men only (women and children are covered by a great many other services while the need to help homeless men remains strong).

Shoeboxes will be available for you to pick up on December 2 following worship. The shoeboxes can be filled with necessities for a homeless man (see list below). The box should be wrapped in Christmas paper and placed under the Christmas tree in the narthex. On December 17<sup>th</sup> members of the Mission & Outreach Board will deliver the gifts to the Homeless Services Center in Santa Rosa.

Our Shoebox Ministry gifts can be an important part in the life of a homeless man. Please fill your shoebox generously using “regular” size products (not “sample” sizes). It is important to stick to the list and include all the items as these gifts are opened in a group setting

### SHOEBOX MINISTRY FOR MEN

Toothpaste	Toothbrush	Pocket comb
Deodorant	Washcloth	Shampoo/conditioner
2 granola bars	Hand towel	Package of tissues
Disposable razors		Large bar of soap
1 Pair of warm socks		Pen and notepad
Shaving cream		Box of band aides

Our tree will become our “Socks & Underwear Tree.” There is always a tremendous need for men’s, women’s and children’s socks and new packaged underwear in all sizes. Socks, packages of underwear, hats and gloves can be brought in to decorate the Christmas tree that will be placed in the narthex on the first Sunday of Advent, December 2. All the items collected will be delivered to The Living Room on December 17 by members of the Mission & Outreach Board.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee will be calling you soon to ask you to volunteer for committees and boards at The Community Church. Please give prayerful consideration as to where you would like to serve in the year 2013.

- ✂ **Adult Education Committee**: Plans classes, workshops, Bible studies for adults
- ✂ **Board of Christian Education**: Responsible to guide and support Sunday Children’s Ministries. Also works on special events, such as the Advent Event.
- ✂ **Memorial & Endowment**: Manages funds given as endowments and memorials; plans educational events for the congregation and community.
- ✂ **Mission & Outreach**: Concerned with meeting human needs in the local community, the nation and the world; presents educational programs and projects.
- ✂ **Nominating Committee**: Responsible for obtaining persons to serve the church on boards and committees.
- ✂ **Personnel Committee**: Establishes and maintains personnel policies; meets with church staff; addresses personnel issues.
- ✂ **Board of Trustees**: Responsible for care and custody of the property and financial affairs of the church.
- ✂ **Youth Committee**: Support group for the youth groups and their advisors. Responsible for finding and training youth leaders
- ✂ **Ushering & Hospitality**: Help coordinate Sunday morning volunteers and act as church liaison during memorial services.

✂ - - - - -

Please consider me for the following Board or Committee:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return to the church office. Thank you.

# SAVE THE DATE!

Please mark your calendars for the date for the 2013 Women's Winter Retreat: January 18-20, 2013 (Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend!) The retreat will be held at the wonderful Marconi Center in Marshall – more details to follow.



## Women's Retreat January 18-20, 2013



## Special Advent Event ALL CHURCH ADVENT LUNCHEON EVENT! DECEMBER 2

Join us for a spectacular Advent Event on December 2 after church. Bring your Thanksgiving dessert to share in Memorial Hall for an all church luncheon extravaganza - with a little bit of help from you, we will have a feast! We will have advent wreath making (please bring your clippers). We will have lots of crafts to create for children of all ages and activities for the whole family! Don't forget to bring your grandchildren and your neighbors; this is an event that you won't want to miss!

Our menu includes Turkey ala King and Veggie ala King, salad, rolls, pumpkin cupcakes for dessert, cranberry juice, coffee and tea.

Here is what you can do to help – check out the sign up sheet below, sign up for your volunteer position and send it back to the church office (or call 823-2484 or email: [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org)).

We have a suggested donation of \$5 for lunch and a suggested donation of \$5 for each Advent Wreath to help cover the cost of materials. Thank you.

.....

Name \_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday, 12/1 from 12-5 PM for food prep and minimal decorating and set up.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday, 12/2 from 8 AM -1 PM for final food prep and serving.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday, 12/2 from 1- 3 PM for clean up.

Fill this out and drop in the collection plate, or call or email the church office: 823-2484 or [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org).

## CHRISTMAS EVE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

All children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant, which will be during the Family Christmas Eve service at 6:00pm on December 24. Children will practice their parts and the pageant songs during Children's Choir time during the month of December (9:30-10:15 every Sunday). Children will be assigned parts to act out (no speaking parts are necessary), and parents will be responsible for providing costumes for their children.



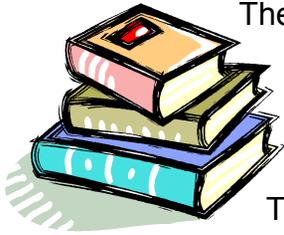
If your child is interested in participating, please let Kristen DelMonte, Andy DelMonte or Jan Kahdeman know before December 2. You may also contact the church office at 823-2484 or [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org).

## 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.

## READER'S CIRCLE COMMUNITY CHURCH BOOK GROUP



The Reader's Circle is open to all, everyone is welcome. You may contact Rosemary Manchester ([r\\_manchester@comcast.net](mailto:r_manchester@comcast.net)) or 707 823 3477 with any questions. Here's the selection for November:

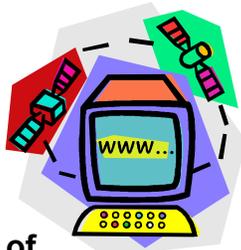
The group meets in the Fireside Room from 2-4 pm and then for your convenience, the meeting is repeated at 7 pm, usually on the second Monday of the month.

The Reader's Circle will not meet in December, but we will embark on a new reading adventure for the new year. Copperfield's Books will have our book selection available at a special low price. . . stay tuned for more details.

## WWW.UCCSEB.ORG

### SERMON AUDIO ONLINE!

Have you seen our new, improved and very classy website?? The address remains the same, but everything else about the website has changed. **And a recent update – audio of the sermons can now be heard on line!** Visit [www.uccseb.org](http://www.uccseb.org) and click on worship and then sermons. Happy listening!



### RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS ONLINE

To receive our newsletter online, go to 'News & Events' and select 'Newsletters.' Right there you have the opportunity to read the newsletter online and **GO GREEN** and sign up for the online newsletter. Save paper, save postage and save money!

Do you have ideas or comments about our website – we'd love to hear from you. You can respond via the website on our 'Contacts' page or on the phone at 823-2484 or in person.

The website has been a work in progress for a long while – it's finally here and we are very excited. Hope you are too!

Webmasters John Henel and Karin Seder

## PILGRIM CENTER DEDICATION & CELEBRATION JANUARY 13

Our "new building", soon to be named the Pilgrim Center, will be dedicated after church on January 13 with a celebration befitting of this wonderful achievement. If you would like to help with planning and preparations, please contact Rev. Nelson at 823-2484. We have much to celebrate and we hope you will join us!

### 2013 ADULT MISSION TRIP: HENRYVILLE, INDIANA

Think you might like to go on the adult mission trip for 2013? We have a location: Henryville, Indiana – a small town of 2000 that was ravaged by a tornado in March 2012 that left very few buildings untouched by the 175 mph winds. UCC Disaster Recovery is working in Henryville with rebuilding efforts and volunteers from across the U.S. And you can join in these the team!

The Community Church Mission & Outreach Committee invites you to join the Adult Mission Trip scheduled for June 16-22. Registration forms and more information will be available in February – but for now, mark your calendar and plan to be a part of this amazing adventure.

### *Special Thank yous . . .*

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers and even meals, following my recent surgery. I am so fortunate to belong to such a caring congregation and am very grateful for each and every one of you. Thank you so very much,

*Barbara Walton*

Thank you for the cards, phone calls, prayers and your concern for me during my recent illness. I am on the mend, feeling stronger each day and I plan to see you in church very soon, possibly even before you read this! Your caring compassion and concern are an important part of my continued recovery. Thank you,

*Glenda Elvy*



## MISSION & OUTREACH

Mission & Outreach will meet during the day on December 17 to deliver items collected on our Socks & Underwear Tree and the Shoebox Ministry.

### SOCK & UNDERWEAR TREE

The church entry features the *Sock & Underwear Tree* where you are invited to bring warm socks, hats, gloves and packages of underwear to decorate the tree!

### SHOEBOX MINISTRY

Shoeboxes are available for you to fill (see the specific list in each box) and wrap for the Homeless Services Center.

### ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

Alternative Gifts catalogs are available for you to honor your gift recipient by giving someone in desperate need a flock of chickens, eye surgery, clean water or any number of helpful gifts that will be truly appreciated. Pick up a catalog and let your imagination go!

### SATURDAY TABLE

On the second Saturday of each month, Mission & Outreach prepares and served lunch in Memorial Hall to our local homeless population. In addition to offering a hot meal, we also offer showers. You have been very generous with towels, soaps and shampoos – thank you! The one item we do have a need for is socks: men's & women's, new or gently worn. You may bring them to the church office or leave in the collection bin in the church entryway. Monetary donations should be left in the church office. For more information or to volunteer, contact Joyce Cox at 829-0750 or the church office at 823-2484.

### SACK LUNCHES



Did you know the Community Church also provides sack lunches each Friday to our homeless population? Sack lunches are offered out of the Christian church kitchen each day of the week, prepared by different churches and individuals. If you would like to help with this project, contact Chris Jenkins at 829-2230. If you are not available to help with preparations, your cash donations are also greatly appreciated.



## Children's Ministry

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Our Preschool-Second grade classes will be using the **Godly Play** curriculum this church year. This is a wonderful curriculum that invites children to become aware of the Holy in our daily

lives through creative story-telling of the Bible stories. Our children will be grouped together in three classes; Preschool & Kindergarteners, First & Second graders, Third, Fourth & Fifth graders. Each class will have teachers and helpers. Below is the October schedule for the groups:

### Preschool & Kindergarten (Room #1)

DATE	STORY	TEACHER
December 2	Advent 1	Debbie McCallum
December 9	Advent 2	Debbie McCallum
December 15	Advent 3	Debbie McCallum
December 23	Cookie Decorating in Fellowship Hall	
December 30	in church	

### First & Second Grade (Choir Room)

DATE	STORY	TEACHER
December 2	Advent 1	Pam Ammondson
December 9	Advent 2	Pam Ammondson
December 15	Advent 3	Pam Ammondson
December 23	Cookie Decorating in Fellowship Hall	
December 30	in church	

The Third-Fifth grade class (meeting in Room #4) will follow the UCC Lectionary and each Sunday will have an exciting lesson and project to follow.

### Third-Fifth Grade (Room 4)

DATE	STORY	TEACHER
December 2	Luke 21:25-36	Josephine Weigle
December 9	Luke 3:1-6	Suzanne White
December 15	Luke 3:7-18	Laura Steyn
December 23	Cookie Decorating in Fellowship Hall	
December 30	in church	

★A BIG thank you to Darryl Fenley, Paula Matzinger, Dave Peterson & their friend Will for not only entertaining us with a wonderful concert in November, but for also raising funds for our new building project! ★ Thank you to Steve Bradley for his volunteer electrical work on the new building – we are now wired for sound! ★ Thank you to Bob Holland for continuing to care of our roses – Bob will be replanting the roses near the bell tower and he says we can look for blooms this spring. ★ Thanks to Kathy Matthies for our Thanksgiving Banners and for our pumpkin pies on Stewardship Sunday. ★ Thank you to Gail Thomas and her team for the bountiful Thanksgiving altar. ★ Thank you to all our Thanksgiving volunteers – we had over 100 volunteers from all over the county to help put the Community Thanksgiving Dinner on the table, serving more than 300 meals to our neighbors. Special thanks go to Roger and Linda Collins for all the hard work they put into organizing this event. It truly is a community dinner! ★ Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who helped with the Saturday Table. Your hospitality helped warm the tummies and hearts of our local homeless. ★ Thank you for your participation in food drive for our local Inter-Church Food Pantry – your contributions made a big difference! ★



## ❧ Advent ❧

Advent is coming! Advent is the four week time before Christmas when Christians all over the world, stop, slow down and reflect on their lives and where they might make room in their lives for the Christ Child. We invite you to do the same this Advent with your children.

Start by thinking of rituals and ways that you as a family can keep Jesus at the forefront this holiday season. Perhaps you create an Advent Wreath at the Advent Event and read the Advent devotions before dinner. You might create a home made 'countdown to Christmas chain' out of construction paper and write words of Thanksgiving on it. Perhaps you sing a special song for Grace every evening. Start creating these ideas now so that you will be ready when Advent arrives!



# Passages

## Death

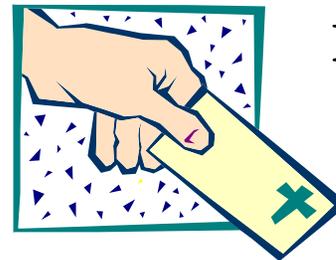
Sue Rollins passed away on October 24 at her home in Sebastopol. She was 92. Sue and her late husband, Pat Rollins, had been members of the Community Church since they moved to Sebastopol almost 20 years ago. A memorial service was held on November 10, officiated by Rev. Nelson.

## Baptism

Parker M. Warner was baptized into the family of Christ on November 11 at the Community Church of Sebastopol, officiated by Rev. Gene Nelson. Parker is the son of Deidra and Chris Warner and the grandson of Chris and Lisa Dawson. B

## Change of Email Address

Eva Norton has a new email provider and her new email address is: [gopherswon@gmail.com](mailto:gopherswon@gmail.com).



## FINANCIAL UPDATE

The month of October proved to be a very challenging month for our church operating fund. A month of lower than average receipts and higher than average expenses meant that we spent \$12,000 more than we took in. This pushed our year to date operating deficit to over \$21,000. Not great news. Actually, our year to date expenses remain under budget projections. The problem is that our year to date income is falling short. But November and December are usually strong months for our church financially, so hopefully we can make some inroads into that operating deficit. As always, thank you for your faithful support of our church and if you can add a little extra Christmas gift to the church this year it would be extremely helpful.

# Sr. High Youth News December 2012

Senior High School PF Grades 9-12

**December 2 6:30-8 PM Memorial Hall**

## **SOMETHING SPECIAL**

Please meet in the Memorial Hall kitchen where we will test our culinary skills and make a meal for the Second Saturday Lunch for the homeless.

**December 9 6:30-8 PM**

## **SHOPPING!!**

Bring \$10.00 and we will venture out to shop for our Christmas families.



**\*\*December 15 3:30-6 PM Sanctuary**

## **CHRISTMAS CONCERT FUNDRAISER**

Meet at the church at 3:30 to help with the Family Christmas Concert – we will be done by 6 pm.

**December 16 6:30-8 PM Fireside Room**

## **CHRISTMASPALOOZA PARTY**

Bring a \$5 gift or a used gift to join in our gift exchange! You never know what might happen!

**December 23 & 30 – No Meetings**

Enjoy your winter break!

\*\*note: on Saturday, February 2, we will go to the Warriors home game. The cost will be \$40.00 plus money for food (dinner). To reserve your space for the game, I will need a deposit of \$20.00 by Sunday, December 9. Friends are invited!

# Jr. High Youth News

## **December 2012**

**Jr. High PF Grades 6th-8th**

**December 2 4:30-6 PM Fireside Room**

## **REGULAR MEETING**

More information to follow.



**December 9 4:30-6 PM Fireside Room**

## **SHOPPING FOR SHOEBOXES**

Please bring \$10 and we will shop to fill our shoeboxes for the Homeless Services Center.

**December 16 4:30-6 PM Fireside Room**

## **CHRISTMASPALOOZA PARTY**

Bring a \$5 gift or a used gift to join in our gift exchange! This is gonna be fun!!

**December 23 & 30 – No Meetings**

Enjoy your winter break!

\*\*Note: January 19-21 we will be going to the Midwinter Camp at Little Basin. The early bird registration cost is \$99 before January 4. To register, visit [www.ncncucc.org](http://www.ncncucc.org). Register today and save \$\$.

## DECEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Sunday Worship & Children's Ministry	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM Church Council 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Practice	<b>29</b> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Kitchen Maintenance 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir Practice 10:30 AM Sunday Worship & Children's Ministry	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Practice	<b>6</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:40 AM Between Women  11:30 AM Second Saturday Lunch
<b>9</b> New Members Received 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir Practice 10:30 AM Sunday Worship & Children's Ministry	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 4:00 PM Family Christmas Concert
<b>16</b> DelMonte Baptism 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir Practice 10:30 AM Sunday Worship & Children's Ministry	<b>17</b> Mission & Outreach to deliver Shoeboxes & tree items	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Practice	<b>20</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir Practice 10:30 AM Sunday Worship & Children's Ministry	<b>24</b> 6:00 PM Family Christmas Eve Service 8:30 PM Musical Christmas Eve Service 11:00 PM Acoustic Christmas Eve Service	 <b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Sunday Worship & Children's Ministry	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve Church Office Closed	<b>1</b> Happy New Year! Church Office Closed	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

The December **Church Council** meeting date (originally 12/26) will be rescheduled. Stay tuned for updates!

Please submit all check requests and year-end receipts by December 18 for payment in 2012. Thank you.