

**THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
P O BOX 579
SEBASTOPOL CA 95473**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Dated Material – Please do not delay**



Rev. Eugene N. Nelson, Jr.
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(707) 823-2484
www.uccseb.org

**Family Camp
Registration!**

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From the Pastor

During a recent overnight stay at our house, our grandson, Ben, was in an uncharacteristically philosophical mood. Sitting at the table, he sighed and said, “Well it was good while it lasted.” Grandma asked what it meant – what was good while it lasted? He answered, “Life.” Then he elaborated, saying that as soon as Becky had her baby – Becky is our younger daughter living in Portland and is, yes, pregnant – then Grandma wouldn’t have as much time for him. He would not be able to see her, or me, as often. The life he has known is going to change – “It was good while it lasted.” She acknowledged that yes, she would be spending more time away, but also sought to reassure him that she wouldn’t love him any less, that there was plenty of love in her heart both for him and the new baby. In fact, sometimes he could even go with her to Portland.

Who knew he was having such thoughts? At his tender age – 7 – wondering, worrying, if there was going to be enough love and time to go around; fearing what it might mean for him to have to share his grandma. This little boy, anxious that the abundant love he has known might become scarce and his life would change for the worse.

I believe Betty’s promise of abundant love reassured him, but how about us? It is so easy to succumb to the fear of scarcity. Indeed one could argue that the market economy depends on, indeed encourages, a fear of scarcity. There can never be enough. I must have more, buy more, possess more. So the Gospel of John sounds radically countercultural when it proclaims that from the fullness of Christ, we have all received “grace upon grace.” Don’t be so afraid. Trust that in God’s economy there is an abundance of grace...enough to go around, yes even enough grace to see us through the changes and transitions that lie ahead in our life together as a community of faith. We have within us, and within our community, all that we need to begin to see and think and then act in ways we have not thought possible. Grace has brought us safe thus far; and grace surely will lead us home.

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!



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!



Our 3-time World Champion San Francisco Giants are a hot item and we have 45 tickets for Saturday, July 11, against the Phillies. We are in section 127 – so sign up for the game and bring your glove! We offer these tickets at our cost, plus the cost of the bus – you save the driving hassle, the bridge tolls and parking nightmare, and have a great trip to see Giant Baseball with your friends. Mark your calendar now and sign up in the church office or call 823-2484 ext. 100. Game time is 7:15 pm and our bus will leave the Danmar parking lot at 4:30 pm. Ticket price for the game and bus: \$105. License Plate give away night!

Sermons & Scripture

May 2015

May 3

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Rachel Knuth will preach on this Communion Sunday.

May 10

Commanded to Love

When Jesus speaks about love of neighbor, he is not making a polite suggestion. He is giving a command. There is no other alternative.

John 15:1-17.

Rev. Nelson

May 17

BRANCHING OUT

Jesus says that he is the vine and we are the branches. When you think about, a rather humbling proposition. Who wants to be just a branch?

John 15:1-17.

Rev. Nelson

May 24

THE SOFTER SIDE OF PENTECOST

On this day, we celebrate the "official" beginning of the church as Jesus' disciples receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. We often tell Luke's version with wind and fire and loud celebration. But John has his own version of Pentecost.

John 20:19-22

Pentecost Sunday

Rev. Nelson

May 31

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY.

On this Sunday we honor our volunteer teachers and present Bibles to our 4th graders as well as to our graduating Sr. High Students. Please join Rev. Nelson and Rachel Knuth for this special service.



LET'S FINISH THE JOB!

BUILDING CAMPAIGN UPDATE & A CHALLENGE FROM BOBBIE

People of faith are finding some funds but we still need more to reach our goal of \$360,000. Thank you to the 73 households that have pledged \$96,644 as of April 23.

Have you sent in your pledge to help us meet our goal of 100% participation?

Are you willing to match or surpass Bobbie who is the only one so far with a 5 figure pledge?

Please help get rid of our red by giving your green. We need to pay back our members for their loan and keep our congregation mortgage free. We want to make a final tally at the end of the month. Can we count YOU in?

May Garden (Work) Party!



You are invited to a Garden (work!) Party on May 9 from 9-12 here at the Community Church. We plan to have a good time while we spruce up the courtyard and church grounds. All ages are welcome. Bring your own work gloves and if you have some garden tools, bring those along too! Watch for the announcement in our Sunday bulletin of more specific tasks and come give us a hand as we give our church grounds a real spring cleaning! Questions? Contact Barbara Whitson at 322-2012.

LET'S GET CREATIVE

Coming this summer – your chance to show off your creativity! During the summer months our Sunday bulletin covers will feature artwork from members and friends of the Community Church – maybe you would like to see your artwork in print. We have featured everything from photos of your quilting project, to copies of watercolors and oils, drawings and photographs. We need to be able to copy your project on our copier in the office and shrink it to fit our our bulletin cover (8 ½ x 7). Call the office with any questions at 823-2484 or office@uccseb.org.

Women's Fellowship

Please come to the Women's Fellowship Tea and Spring Bazaar and help support our many outreach projects. Your ticket purchase will help support Women's Fellowship contributions to: Council on Aging, Habitat for Humanity, Heartland Hospice, Interchurch Food Pantry, Sebastopol Senior Center, The Living Room the Youth Mission Trip plus our annual pledge to the church operating fund.

Afternoon Tea & Spring Bazaar

SATURDAY MAY 2, 2:00-4:00 pm

FELLOWSHIP HALL



Tea Party



Women's Fellowship will be hosting a traditional Afternoon Tea on Saturday, May 2 in Fellowship Hall. You are invited to come enjoy tea sandwiches, assorted sweets and a variety of teas. Plants, our famous tea towels, jams and jellies and other handmade items will be available for purchase. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased in the church office or from Chris Jenkins. Some tickets will be available at the door; however, reservations are recommended as seating is limited. For more information please contact Chris Jenkins at 829-2230.

Women's Fellowship May Schedule

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|---|
| May 2 | 2-4 pm | <i>Tea & Spring Bazaar</i> |
| May 7 | 10 AM | <i>Executive Board Meeting in Women's Fellowship Office</i> |
| | 10:30 AM | <i>General Meeting</i> |
| | 11:15 AM | <i>Speaker Presentation: Habitat for Humanity</i> |
| | Noon | <i>Luncheon provided by Circle 2</i> |
| May 21 | CIRCLE MEETINGS | |
| | 10 AM | <i>Circle 2 in the Fireside Room</i> |
| | 1 PM | <i>Circle 1 in Fellowship Hall: Crafting</i> |



Between Women

Intergenerational Gathering

Saturday May 2, 2015 2-4 PM

We have something different for Between Women for our May meeting! The first change, we are meeting on the first Saturday in May instead of our usual second Saturday meeting.



Secondly we will join our sisters from Women's Fellowship in Fellowship Hall on May 2 for Tea! This will be an opportunity for ALL women and their friends and family to meet over a relaxing cup of tea and delightful delicacies. We can also help support Women's Fellowship by visiting and shopping at their Spring Bazaar, also on May 2.

Tickets are available now from Marie Cotton, Chris Jenkins or in the Church Office. Tickets are \$10 per person and advance purchase is recommended as seating is limited.



Please join us on May 2. Questions? Please contact Marie Cotton at 707-393-7573.

UKULELE GROUP MEETS ON FRIDAYS

The UkeStars will continue to meet on Fridays in the Fellowship Hall for their jam sessions and weekly practice from 10-11:30 AM. For information please call Vicki Reno at 827-3668 or email at vreno@comcast.net.



MEN'S GROUP

MEN'S GROUP
WEDNESDAY AT 9:15 AM
FAITH CHAPEL

An informal Men's Group meets in Faith Chapel on Wednesday mornings at 9:15 am. All men are invited to attend and join in the discussion on a variety of topics. For more information contact Steve Beck at 829-0314.

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 will practice on May 3, 10 and sing in church on Mother's Day. The choir will meet on May 17 for our end of year party. Questions? Contact Sara.



WOMEN'S
Bible Study

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, May 13 and May 20 in the Fireside Room at 10 AM. The group will conclude sessions on *Spiritual Mindfulness* and on May 20 explore *Lost in the Mystery of God*. Women's Bible Study will then break for the summer and return again in the fall. All women are invited to join the group. Questions? Please contact Joanne Matson at 823-5249.

RECYCLE INKJET CARTRIDGES FOR HABITAT

Leave your empty inkjet cartridges in the green cardboard box in the church office and Mission & Outreach will be able to turn them into cash to help fund our pledge to Habitat for Humanity. Please bring the cartridges in a sealed plastic baggie and Mission & Outreach will take care of the rest. More than \$2,000 has been generated from your used inkjet cartridges for our local Habitat for Humanity. What could be easier!

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 _____



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Volunteer Areas (please circle your areas of interest)

1. **Visiting** (when someone is ill, or cannot attend church services)
2. **Provide Transportation:** to church services; to church events; to medical appointments; for grocery shopping
3. **Food:** provide a dinner when ill, dinner after hospital stay or to a bereaved family
4. **Miscellaneous** (provide help with cell phone use/set up or simple computer help, pet help or _____)

Area of Residence (please circle)

North Sebastopol West Sebastopol South Sebastopol
 Central Sebastopol West Santa Rosa East Santa Rosa
 Other _____

More Helping Hands – Services for Hire

If someone in our church family offers these services for hire, please provide contact information and services available.

Name _____ Phone _____

- Baby sitting House sitting Pet sitting Gardening
 Bookkeeping Correspondence Handyman
 House painting House cleaning Window washing
 Other _____

PLEASE RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE

For any questions, please contact Barbara Whitson at 322-2012

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY

Sunday, May 31st is Christian Education Sunday, Bible Presentation to 4th & 12th Graders, and Honoring Our Graduating High School Seniors.

CE Sunday we will be thanking our Sunday School teachers—if you have taught this Fall or Spring school year, we want to honor you! The last day of Sunday School will be May 31st. June 7th will be a Chapel Circle for Communion, and June 14th the Interest Centers begin.



The CE and Youth Committees will be presenting Bibles to our 4th graders and graduating seniors. This year Lydia and Rachel will be creating Bible bookmarks using favorite passages from several church members. We'll be presenting the Bibles during the church service on May 31st, so please mark your calendar for this special service.

Babies!

Do you love holding babies, and wish you could spend an hour with them every once in a while? You can! The Nursery is looking for a rotating list of adults who can help hold babies and play with our littlest churchgoers. We're hoping to cultivate a list of adults who can be extra helpers in the Nursery, as needed. If you're interested in being on the list, please contact Karin in the Church Office at 823-2484 ext.100..



COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL

Family Camp

SEPT 4-5-6, 2015

AT CAMP CAZADERO

Registration forms are available in this newsletter, online at <http://www.uccseb.org/docs/FamilyCamp2015.pdf> or in the church office.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SUMMER INTEREST
PROGRAM
COME MOVE WITH GOD!**



Every non-communion Sunday this summer, we will have two summer interest centers. One center is specifically designed for our younger children, ages 3-5 and the other is for our older children, ages 6-11. Please let me know which age group and which Sunday works best for you to volunteer or help supervise.

Following our theme: *Move with God*, based on Acts 17:28a "In God we live and move and have our being," possible activities for volunteers to lead might include dance, relay races, building Hot Wheels or marble tracks, kite making, labyrinth walk, alternative energy sources, etc. Come move with us!

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

_____ I will be a leader for _____ages 3-5 _____ages 6-11

_____ I am available to help another leader

Please circle the date(s) you are available and return this form to the church office or leave in the collection plate on Sunday.

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| June 14 | June 21 | June 28 | |
| July 12 | July 19 | July 26 | |
| August 9 | August 16 | August 23 | August 30 |
| | September 6 | | |



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 in need of a helping hand. It also provides a resource for those within our church family. Volunteers are comprised of members and friends of the Community Church of Sebastopol, UCC.

There will be one formal meeting a year for volunteer sign-ups with additional sign-ups through our church bulletin. You will be called upon to occasionally provide a service in the area of your interest, to someone near the location of your home.

THIS WILL NOT BE A TIME CONSUMING COMMITMENT AND THERE ARE NO MEETINGS TO ATTEND!

Process: When a call for assistance comes into the church office, that call would be directed to the Topic Coordinator. The Coordinator would check our Parish Care Volunteer Bank and contact volunteers in the area to arrange a helping hand as needed. The Topic Coordinator would be in touch with the individual or family to get details and make the arrangements for the service needed.

If you are in need of help or know someone who is, or would like to become a Parish Care volunteer, please contact Barbara Whitson at 707-322-2012 or the church office at 823-2484.

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 shop-

ping 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 707-322-2012

Celebrating in May



- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | Priscilla Best | 13 | Mark Albin |
| | Becky Nelson Bowen | | Bill Stillman |
| | Chris Junge | 14 | Eva Stevens |
| | Noah Yaylian | 15 | Mike Moore |
| 2 | Natalie Belew | 16 | William Stoll |
| | Debby McLeod | | Chris Castillo |
| | Callen Warner | 17 | Janet Minton |
| 3 | Eddie Ahvenainen | | Benjamin Nelson Sumrall |
| | Lisa Gonzalez | | Marilyn Lerum |
| 4 | Dave Bell | 18 | Andrea Furber Card |
| | Lily McClendon | | Jordan Simi |
| | Russell Albin | 19 | Morgan Thomas |
| 5 | Genia Thorhaug | 20 | Marc Felton |
| 6 | Danielle Berndt | | Theo Davidson |
| | Paige Braddock | 21 | Barbara Deedler |
| 7 | Rosemary Manchester | | Maryssa Lovejoy |
| 8 | John Simmons | 22 | Megan Ford |
| | Allen Sherman | | Valerie Minton |
| 9 | Jenna Gonzales | | Heather Davis |
| 10 | Judy Peterson | 24 | Jeff Kalemba |
| | Lisa Dawson | 26 | Babetta Wilson |
| | Emilie Jame | 27 | Sonya Krautner |
| | Amanda Bachelor | 28 | Bill Phillips |
| 11 | Muriel Weaver | 29 | Nathan Foster |
| | Dale Dougherty | | Kristen McKoin |
| 12 | Prue Manley | | Celia Cummings |
| | Marilyn McHugh | 31 | Mary Coleman |
| | Richard Wood | | Corrine Ford |
| | Preston Paull | | |



away as possible. But it is still a mystery why nobody ever came back, even to recover their most personal possessions. We will probably never know what really happened.

People gave generously of time and money to make Caz a success. The Conference gave honor by naming cabins after these people. In those early days, building new cabins was the greatest need and there were work parties nearly every weekend. One could just go up to Caz, bring a sleeping bag and some food and go to work. Myron Alexander (Ivy's husband) was a volunteer carpenter from Antioch, who built many of the cabins, and taught many a camper, minister, staffer, and parent how to drive a nail or build a stair step. As a result there is a cabin named Alexander. The Haymond Cabin was named after Scott, the volunteer architect who drew the plans for the cabins, and his wife Laura, the girls' supervisor at Caz for many years.

When the first round of cabins began to age, new winterized cabins were constructed with an eye to possible year-round use. The Sebastopol Community Church received the honor of naming a new cabin because they contributed the most money to the cabin building fund (\$30,000). The church held a "Naming Contest." Some wanted to name it the "Eshelman" cabin, after Byron and Anne, our members who had attended Caz Camp more years than anyone else and had done so much to make the camp a success. There is a famous snapshot of Byron, stripped to the waist, digging the swimming pool with a shovel. They declined the honor, saying it should be named something more long-lasting than a person's name. "Koinonia," a New Testament word for "Christian Community," won the contest. At a naming ceremony, Byron and Anne Eshelman nailed the new name plaque on the cabin.

Harley Gill Lodge, built in 1957, was named after the 1932-1950 Conference Superintendent. He was in office when Caz was first being considered, and from the descriptions he heard, he was not enthusiastic. When he and his wife came up and visited in person, however, he became a staunch supporter.

Cazadero is a Spanish word that means, "The Hunting Ground." In its past, it has seen many people hunting deer, wild boar and other game. Now it has gone through different years, and seen hundreds of campers of all ages from infants to octogenarians hunting for something different. We are a people hunting for a closer relationship to trees, flowers, water, stars, and nature; and a closer relationship to others, inside our families and out. And above all, we are hunting for a closer relationship with God. Yes, Cazadero is still our Hunting Ground.

The History of Camp Cazadero – Part 5 – by Sara Gerboth

See the entire series online:

<http://www.uccseb.org/docs/HistoryofCampCazadero.pdf>

That night there was a fire in Cazadero and all the male crew and staff went off down the hill in the old army truck, with their backpack pumps and McCloud tools (oversized half hoe and half rake) to fight the fire. The crew had been trained in operating the backpack pumps, which were tanks of water carried on the back equipped with a hand pump. They came back in the wee hours.

With morning light, a crew member reported that the septic tank was running over, and everyone was very glad for the “holy holes on the hill.” That was enough for the cook, who quit and left before breakfast. Wim Meyer called Ivy Alexander, a camper’s mom, and she came to the rescue from Antioch as a temporary cook and stayed for seven years!

During that first camp and for many years after, right after breakfast at 9 a.m., the bell rang and we all reported to our station for “Caz Care.” For an hour, campers worked on trails and new cabins, hoed or weeded the vegetable garden, dug the swimming pool, worked on the road, helped dig fire breaks with McCloud tools, peeled potatoes and whatever else needed doing. There was a crew of college kids who stayed all summer, working around the camp and in the kitchen, supervising groups of campers. They also directed Caz Care.

Platoons of volunteers dug the first swimming pool. Before it, campers had to hike down to Bearpen dam for a swim. By the time you hiked back to camp, you were hotter and dirtier than when you started. And, yes, the lady bugs were at Bearpen in 1945 and had to be skimmed off before anyone could swim. They made swimming rather unpleasant, and they have been there ever since.

Wim Meyer, the Conference Youth Minister, later did some asking around to try to find out what had happened at the Ollie Bradley Truth Rest Home and why they had all left so suddenly and never come back. Nobody really seems to know, but this is the theory they came up with: Morhardt Ridge, southeast of Camp, shows signs of a big fire in the then-recent years. Perhaps the fire came down near our spring and into Redwood Glen before it was put out or burned out. If you walk over there even now you can find burned trees. Naturally Ed Morhardt, the real estate agent who was trying to sell the property, did not want to scare off buyers, and did not dwell on that fire. But who knows, when the residents saw the flames cover over the ridge, they may have panicked and caused them to flee on a moment’s notice to get as far

Summer Music



During the summer months, the various church choirs and music groups take time off. Thus, there is no one scheduled to provide music during worship from June 21 until September 13 when we officially launch the new church year.

This provides everyone in the congregation a chance to help shape worship for at least one summer Sunday. The music can be instrumental or choral, traditional or something new. It's a chance to show how a different style of music might support the worship experience.

Fill in the form below and drop it off in the collection plate or the church office, or see the sign up-sheet in the church office. Or you may call Karin to add your name to the list at 823-2484 ext 100.



Yes! I want to provide special music one Sunday during the summer!

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Please circle the Sunday you would like to reserve:

| | | | | |
|---------|----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| June 21 | June 28 | July 5 | July 12 | July 19 |
| July 26 | August 2 | August 9 | August 16 | August 23 |
| | | August 30 | September 6 | |



Children's Ministry

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

In May we continue the Easter Season through Pentecost. This is a time when we explore the transition between Jesus' earthly ministry and discovering God's presence as Creator in the Incarnation and Holy Spirit within ourselves. The younger classes are following the Godly Play curriculum:

"Knowing Jesus in a New Way." The oldest class continues with "A Joyful Path" curriculum. Childcare is available for children ages 3 and younger in Room 4 with Diana Wilson and helpers.

Children Ages 3-5 (Room #5)

| DATE | STORY | |
|--------|---|--------------|
| May 3 | Communion Circle with Jamie Malone in the Chapel | |
| May 10 | Knowing Jesus (Fellowship Hall) & special project | Rachel |
| May 17 | Knowing Jesus in Waiting | Paula Berndt |
| May 24 | Pentecost | Paula Berndt |
| May 31 | Holy Trinity | Paula Berndt |

Children Ages 6-7 (Room #6)

| DATE | STORY | |
|--------|---|--------------|
| May 3 | Communion Circle with Jamie Malone in the Chapel | |
| May 10 | Knowing Jesus (Fellowship Hall) & special project | Rachel |
| May 17 | Knowing Jesus in Waiting | Jamie Malone |
| May 24 | Pentecost | Jamie Malone |
| May 31 | Holy Trinity | Jamie Malone |

Children Ages 8-11 (Room #4)

| DATE | STORY | |
|--------|---|---------------|
| May 3 | Communion Circle with Jamie Malone in the Chapel | |
| May 10 | Knowing Jesus (Fellowship Hall) & special project | Rachel |
| May 17 | Goodness | Rachel |
| May 24 | Pentecost | Mary McMillon |
| May 31 | Sacred Guidance | Pam Ammondson |

May 31 is Christian Education Sunday when we honor our teachers who volunteer on Sundays to share their talents with the youngest members of our church family. On this Sunday we will also present Bibles to our 4th Grade students and our Sr. High graduates.



MISSION & OUTREACH

THE GIFT OF CLEAN LAUNDRY!

Did you know our church provides a very basic service to our local neighbors in need – laundry vouchers! Your gift of \$5 provides a wash and dry for a large load of laundry at Wash Plus on Bodega Avenue. This is a much needed and much appreciated service, especially during the wet winter months.

Cash or checks marked "laundry" may be left in the collection plate or sent to the church office. What an easy and thoughtful way to help others! If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Matson at 823-5249.

GIFT BAGS?

Do you have a bunch of empty gift bags from Christmas? Or small shopping bags with handles? Don't throw them away – we can reuse them here at the church! They make wonderful bags to pack a few food items or "snack bags" for hungry folks needing a little something to eat. Bring them to the church office and we will put them to good use!

THE HUMAN RACE MAY 9TH.



Mission & Outreach invites you to walk along with their team and collect pledges for the Living Room – a special shelter, serving homeless women and their children. You may choose to walk, run or even skip along the 3K or 10K course – or

pledge to support one of our team members as they walk for the Living Room.

Sign-up sheets will be available for walkers and sponsors in the church office, and look for our sign-up table in the courtyard after church on May 3.

Become part of something big – join the Committee for Mission & Outreach! We have room for 2 more persons. We meet once a month and help organize a number of projects throughout the year to assist our local and wider communities. Call Joyce Cox 829-0750 to find out more.



MISSION & OUTREACH

Mission & Outreach will meet on Monday, May 18 at 7 PM in the Fireside Room.

SATURDAY TABLE

On the second Saturday of each month, Mission & Outreach serves lunch in Memorial Hall to our local homeless population. In addition to offering a hot meal, we also offer showers. 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*
- ❖ *Hand sanitizer and Chapstick*

Clothing items do not have to be new, but they must be usable and clean. Look for the collection bin in the church entry to drop off your donations. Monetary donations should be left in the church office. For more information or to volunteer, contact Joanne Matson at 823-5249 or the church office at 823-2484.

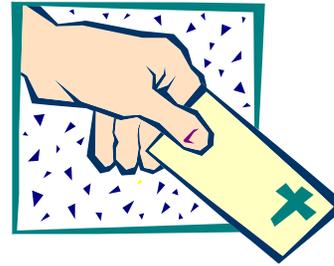
SATURDAY TABLE MEAL PREPARATIONS

Thank you to those who prepared food for the April Second Saturday Lunch: Katie Baumgrass, Gerri Doody, Mary McMillon, Carleen Madsen, Karin Seder and Sophie Sherman.

If you would like to provide a dish for our Saturday Table meal, please contact Joanne Matson, 823-5249, or jimatson@yahoo.com.

ADULT MISSION TRIP

The 2015 Adult Mission Trip is set for June 7-13 to Middletown, New Jersey to help with rebuilding from Hurricane Sandy at a site right on the coast line. All adults are welcome, no matter what your skill level. Group members need to be flexible and able to work well in a group. Contact Joyce Cox with any questions at 829- 0750.



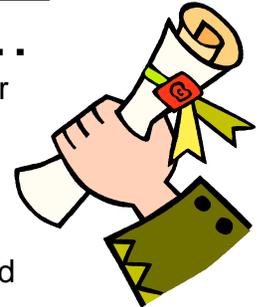
FINANCIAL UPDATE

March was a good bounce back month for our church financially. Operating income exceeded expenses by almost \$5000. This still left us with a three

month operating deficit of \$8588, but it certainly was a marked improvement. Pledge income led the way as we finished the month \$2400 above our pledge income projections. And income from use of facilities remained quite strong. We even received a few new pledges, raising our pledge total to \$278,439. Recall that our budget goal is \$285,000 in pledges, so there still is some ground that needs to be made up. It is never too late to make or increase a pledge for 2015.

In Search of Graduates ...

Do you have a new graduate in your family or someone who will be graduating soon? High school, college, and advanced degrees – we want to list them all right here in our newsletter. Please call the office at 823-2484 ext. 100 to list your graduate in our June Newsletter or send an email to office@uccseb.org.



Apple Pies Event AUGUST 6-7-8-9, 2015



Mark your calendar for this fun multi-generational event August 6-9 as we prepare and bake over 1500 Gravenstein apple pies for the Gravenstein Apple Fair. Not only is this event fun, but all proceeds fund our camp scholarships for youth camps and Family Camp at Camp Cazadero.

Passages

Death

Joyce Smith, the mother of Guy Smith, passed away in March after a long illness. A memorial service was held at Pleasant Hill on April 2, officiated by Rev. Nelson. Please keep Guy and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Birth

Virginia Hughes announced the birth of a new Great Grandson, Theo, born on April 17 to her granddaughter, Rosey and her husband Gino Scurini. Theo was welcomed home by big brother Louis. Blessings and congratulations!



NEW MEMBER RECEIVED MAY 24

New members will be received into The Community Church on Sunday, May 24th during the worship service. If you are interested in church membership or in learning more about the Community Church and church membership, please contact Rev. Nelson or call the church office 823-2484 ext.100 to schedule a time to meet with him.

WANTED: MADD CAMP COUNSELORS

All youth (entering 6th -12th grade) are invited to become a MADD Camp Counselor. MADD Camp is July 6-10 from 9-12:30. Counselors will need to be at MADD Camp from 8:15 am to -1pm every day. Find out more at an informational meeting on Sunday, June 14 from Noon-2 pm, in the Youth Lounge. There will be a final planning meeting on Sunday, July 5 from 4-6 pm. Questions? Contact Lydia at 823-2484 ext 104 or by email: LydiaMulkey@uccseb.org.

Adults are also needed to help with snacks each day and to help supervise other areas during the MADD Camp week. Give Lydia a call if you can help.

Music Art Dance Discovery MADD Vacation Bible Camp Treasure Hunt!



July 6-10 from 9 am to 12:30 pm for ages 4-10

Sponsored by the Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Groups at the Community Church of Sebastopol, UCC

Early bird registration before June 22 -\$115 per child
After June 22, \$125 per child or \$25 per day.

Ask about our sibling discount & scholarship information.
(No before or after care available.)

Registration forms available in the church office or
www.uccseb.org.

Join us for a week-long Treasure Hunt learning about God's love through music, art, dance and discovery. Join our Treasure Hunt July 6 through July 10. 9:00-12:30 every day!



- ★ Dress up days
- ★ Dancing
- ★ Singing,
- ★ Crafts
- ★ Fun discoveries

And on Friday, a fun MADD Camp presentation for the whole family to enjoy. Call the Community Church at 823-2484 ext. 100 or office@uccseb.org with questions.

MADD CAMP MUSIC ART DANCE & DISCOVERY Vacation Bible Camp It's a Treasure Hunt!

JULY 6-10, 2015

GENE ANNOUNCES HIS RETIREMENT

(copy of letter mailed to the congregation on April 14, 2015)

It is with many conflicting emotions and thoughts that I announce my intent to retire from The Community Church of Sebastopol and from the Christian ministry in twelve months. My final Sunday leading worship will be April 24th, 2016. I have been blessed beyond words to be your pastor and friend since June, 1978, but in my heart I know that the time has come for new directions – in my life and in the life of this church I love so. I announce my intent to retire with over a year's notice because with such a long pastorate in this place, both I and the church need time to prepare, intentionally and thoughtfully, for this transition. I need the time to say goodbye, although I'm not even sure a year will be enough time. And the church needs the time to give careful consideration to its future direction and needs.

My heart hurts as I write this. So much of my life has been lived in the midst of our community of faith. How can I not be here? But again, the time feels right to make this move. And I assure you I will be engaged with you and my work right up until my retirement date arrives. And I hope you remain engaged as well. The year ahead promises exciting new possibilities in our church staff as the search for a new Senior Minister begins, Lydia moves into the Associate Minister position and Rachel continues to grow our children's ministry. We need to make a strong commitment to their ministry among us. And it remains my hope that I can leave the church debt free – that the mortgage on our wonderful Pilgrim Center will be paid off with gifts and pledges over the next year. And my ongoing commitment to preaching and worship and pastoral care will not change.

Endings and beginnings have never been easy for me. It is so hard to let go of the familiar and embrace the new. But, when you think about it, that is precisely what Jesus invites us to do, again and again. It is my hope and prayer that we can support and encourage each other as we begin our journey on a new and unexplored path.

Faithfully,

Gene

HOLY WEEK WRAP-UP

Children and Youth Ministries co-hosted a series of events for Holy Week that turned out beautifully! Thanks to everyone who participated and helped set up, especially Lorna Loch, Ben and Jane Rasmus and Ethan DelMonte. We welcome all children and youth to join us for future events, as they were spiritually rich and lovely!

Maundy Thursday we celebrated with a foot washing and agape meal at the beach. Chairs were arranged under a big canopy, with bowls of (super-cold!) ocean water. We told the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet and the Last Supper, sharing prayer and music, and



then we washed each other's feet. We shared a simple agape meal of bread and grapes. Everyone who came really enjoyed the ritual and being together in the sun at the beach.

Good Friday we went for a breezy walk in the cemetery, remembering that part of life is death. The children made gravestone rubbings at the sites for



Charles Shultz, Jasper Gonzales, Byron Eschelman, and Grace Kahrs. We told the stories of these saints and thanked God for the gifts they brought to all of us.

Holy Saturday the youth hid eggs for the younger children for a great Easter Egg Hunt. We thought about how surprising it is to find treasures inside of eggs, and how surprising it must have been for the women at the tomb to find it empty that first Easter morning. We shared snacks and a wooden egg craft, and lots of families stayed and enjoyed each other's company in the sunshine. Then the youth were surprised to have an egg hunt that was planned just for them! Easter is full of surprises!



Youth News

May 2015

Sr. High School PF Grades 9-12

Middle School PF Grades 6-8



May 2-3 – Sr. High Youth: Mission Trip Retreat
Arrive at church 10 am and return to church at 8 pm on Sunday

May 3 – Middle School Youth: Echo the Story
— **Session 9: Miracles**

4 pm Middle School Hang Out ★ 4:30 - 6 pm Meeting



May 10 – Mother's Day – No Youth Group Meetings

May 17 – Youth Lounge: Echo the Story —
Session 10: God's Kingdom

4 pm Middle School Hang Out ★ 4:30 - 6 pm Meeting

6 pm High School Hang Out ★ 6:30 - 8 pm Meeting



May 24 – Youth Lounge: Echo the Story —
Session 11: Death to Life

4 pm Middle School Hang Out ★ 4:30 - 6 pm Meeting

6 pm High School Hang Out ★ 6:30 - 8 pm Meeting



May 31 – Special Event in the morning
– regular meetings in the evening

10:30 am Middle School Youth Mini Mission
Trip Commissioning

Youth Lounge: Echo the Story —
Session 12: The Church

4 pm Middle School Hang Out ★ 4:30 - 6 pm Meeting

6 pm High School Hang Out ★ 6:30 - 8 pm Meeting

Our last regularly scheduled meeting together!



June 6th-8th Mini-Mission Trip for Middle School Youth

June 11-14 NCNC Annual Gathering at Sonoma State

June 14th Senior High Mission Trip Commissioning in Worship
at 10:30am

June 20-27th High School Mission Trip



Northern California Nevada Conference United Church of Christ

Summer Camps 2015

At Camp Cazadero

You & Me Camp (ENTERING GRADES K-3) **July 10-12**

You & Me Camp is a great experience for first-time campers! Go to camp with a parent, grandparent, favorite aunt/uncle or other adult! Each adult may bring up to 3 children, entering grades K through 3. Each child may bring up to 2 adults. Check out registration and special pricing at www.ncncucc.org

Junior Camp (ENTERING GRADES 3-6) **July 19-25**

Jr. High Camp (ENTERING GRADES 6-9) **July 26- Aug 1**

Sr. High Camp (ENTERING GRADES 9-12) **July 12-18**

Counselor in Training (GRADE 12+) **July 19-25**

At Camp Tamarack

Junior/Jr. High Camp (ENTERING GRADES 5-8) **July 19-25**

Sr. High Camp (ENTERING GRADES 9-12) **July 26-Aug 1**

Check www.ncncucc.org for more information and to download registration and health forms.

Apple Pie Scholarships are available for all our campers – call the church office to sign up to help at our Apple Pies event (Aug 6-9) and earn \$\$ for camp!

Community Church of Sebastopol's FAMILY CAMP:

September 4-5-6, 2015

Mark your calendar now so you don't miss out on all the fun!

MADD Camp for ages 4-10 here at the Community Church will be July 6-10. Watch for more information!

May 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------|---|--|---|--|
| 26 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth Group 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group | 27 | 28 | 29 9:45 AM Men's Discussion Group 5:00 PM Handbell Practice | 30 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship All Circles 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir | 1 10:00 AM UkeStars | 2 10:00 AM Sr. High Mission Trip Retreat 2:00 PM Women's Fellowship Tea & Spring Bazaar |
| 3 Communion Sunday Sr. High Mission Trip Retreat 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth Group | 4 | 5 | 6 9:45 AM Men's Discussion Group 5:00 PM Handbell Practice | 7 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Board 10:30 AM Women's Fellowship Meeting 12:00 PM Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir | 8 10:00 AM UkeStars | 9 The Human Race 9:00 AM Garden Work Party 11:30 AM 2nd Saturday Lunch |
| 10 Mother's Day 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry | 11 | 12 | 13 9:45 AM Men's Discussion Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:00 PM Handbell Practice | 14 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir | 15 10:00 AM UkeStars | 16 |
| 17 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth Group 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group | 18 7:00 PM Mission & Outreach | 19 | 20 9:45 AM Men's Discussion Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting | 21 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Circle 2 Meeting 1:00 PM Women's Fellowship Circle 1 Meeting 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir | 22 10:00 AM UkeStars 5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal | 23 5:00 PM Holland Wedding |
| 24 New Members Received 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth Group 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group | 25 | 26 | 27 9:45 AM Men's Discussion Group 5:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Church Council | 28 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir | 29 10:00 AM UkeStars | 30 |
| 31 Christian Education Sunday 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth Group | 1 | 2 | 3 9:45 AM Men's Discussion Group | 4 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir | 5 10:00 AM UkeStars | 6 |



Family Camp

All Ages Welcome!

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL

Family Camp

SEPTEMBER 4-5-6, 2015

Join us at Family Camp – bring your family to meet our family! The “family” in Family Camp is our church family – singles, doubles, traditional families, non-traditional families and parts of families are all welcome. Come join our family at Family Camp this year!

**CONTINUE THE FAMILY TRADITION OR START A NEW TRADITION –
DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN AT FAMILY CAMP!**

| Names (Family rate implies one household and includes college students dependent on parents' income) | Ages (18 & under) | Comments (i.e., will bring port-a-crib, need wheelchair access, cannot walk far, cabin mate requests, special dietary needs, will bring tent, need bottom bunk, cabin requests etc.) |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| | | |
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| | | |
| | | |

Address: _____ Phone: _____
 (Please fill in address, even if you are on mailing list.)

- We request a \$50 non-refundable deposit
- You pay whichever figure is lowest; no family need pay more than \$200
- Fees include two nights lodging, six meals and all materials
- Additional scholarships available – call the church office at 823-2484
- Mail registration & check to Community Church P.O. Box 579, Sebastopol, CA 95473

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Total cost for my family | \$ _____ |
| Additional amount I can contribute | \$ _____ |
| Amount enclosed | \$ _____ |
| Balance due | \$ _____ |
| Must be paid in full by August 24 | |

Family Camp Fee Schedule

| Apple Pies Camp Discount | | Actual Cost of Camp | | Saturday Only | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------|--------------------------------|
| \$44 | Children 6-11 years (0-5 free) | \$74 | Children 6-11 years (0-5 free) | \$25 | Children 6-11 years (0-5 free) |
| \$72 | Individuals 12 years + | \$120 | Individuals 12 years + | \$40 | Individuals 12 years + |
| \$200 | Families (one household only) | \$388 | Families (based on 2 adults, 2 children) | | |

Our Apples Pies Camp Scholarships subsidize Family Camp rates by 40% for all children and adult campers. Our Family Rate (based on 2 adults and 2 children) offers a savings of almost 50%. Plus we offer additional scholarships to individuals for whom this may present a hardship. We want everyone who would like to go - be able to attend Family Camp!

If you are financially able to pay more than our discounted Family Camp rate, please help us keep our scholarship fund alive and pay what you can, closer to the actual cost of camp.

Please sign up to work our Apple Pies Event August 6-9 and help keep our Family Camp cost affordable.

Beat the traffic and arrive at Camp Cazadero for Family Camp as early as 4 pm on Friday!!