

SALT & LIGHT

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

The Community Church of Sebastopol

United Church of Christ

707.823.2484

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

Minister of Music

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gene Nelson

Handbell Ensemble Director

Karna Roa

Keyboardist

J. Althea

Congregational Administrator

Chris Chang Weeks

Bookkeeper

Julie Reimer

Custodian

Maria Mojica



W.I.L.D.: Crisis & Resource

Rev. Benjamin Broadbent

This fall, as "Church in the Wild," we have followed the Exodus story...



⇒from Moses' shoes-off encounter at the burning bush to the precarious slog to freedom across the Sea of Reeds;
⇒from the light, flaky "wonder bread" that appears just in time for breakfast to the instant water fountain at the base of Mt. Sinai;
⇒from Aaron's earrings-to-calf idol-fest to a fleeting glimpse of God's backside.

To quote the name of the Grateful Dead's second album, "What a long, strange trip it's been."

"What a long, strange trip it's been." – *The Grateful Dead*

been."

Using "WILD" as an acronym, one can identify four crises that we humans are facing today that the Hebrew people experienced in some form during their sojourn in the wilderness long ago:

W – White Supremacy, the often unacknowledged ideal of "whiteness" that creates and maintains systems and policies. Hebrews suffered under "Pharaonic Supremacy," a system in which one people existed to serve another people.

I – Illness in light of a global pandemic that has killed over a million people globally, divided people ideologically, and disproportionately affected the most vulnerable. In the Book of Numbers, the people are afflicted by snakebites until Moses puts a snake on his staff and holds it up, a prototype for the modern symbol for medicine.

L – Leadership has failed in our own country and others as partisan interests, demagoguery, and narcissism overshadow the common good. Aaron fails as a leader when he succumbs to the people's impatient demand for a God who will serve their needs now.

D – Destruction of Environment felt here in Sonoma County in the form of 2 destructive wildfires (so far) this year. Israel learns that when they trust the land to provide, there is always enough, but when they hoard provisions, the land suffers, and the people along with it.

But wilderness isn't just a place of crisis. It is also a place of new resources:

W – Wonder expressed by Moses at the burning bush opens up his imagination to the possibility of liberation.

I – Initiative at the Sea of Reeds, according to Jewish Midrash, practiced by certain Israelites who waded into the waters trusting that it will part before waiting for proof.

Here in the WILD are resources from God we didn't know existed.

NOVEMBER 2020 WORSHIP

We worship as a "Church in the Wild"

Community worship happens Sundays at 10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.
Small group in-person Prayerful Gatherings happen Sundays at 5:00 p.m.
See weekly emails or visit www.uccseb.org for details.

November 1 – All Saints / Souls Sunday – Matthew 23: 1 – 12

On this final pre-election Sunday, we will celebrate Holy Communion and remember the saints of the church and all the souls that have touched our lives. Rev. Rachel Knuth, Associate Minister of Congregational Care, preaches a sermon entitled: "The Greatest Among Us."

November 8 – Gratitude Sunday – Matthew 25: 1 – 13

Today we celebrate God's generosity and the pledges made in support of our congregation's ministry and mission in the coming year. Rev. Benjamin Broadbent, Lead Minister, preaches a sermon on the Parable of the Bridesmaids entitled: "No Zero Sum Game."

November 15 – 24th Sunday after Pentecost – Matthew 25: 14 – 30

Today Rev. Lacey Hunter, Associate Minister of Faith Formation, preaches on the Parable of the Talents a sermon entitled: "No One Is Worthless."

November 22 – Reign of Christ / Thanksgiving Sunday – Matthew 25: 31 – 46

Today is the final Sunday in the Christian Liturgical Calendar, a sort of New Year's Eve for the church. Pastor Benjamin preaches on the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats a sermon entitled: "Good News for Goats."

November 29 – 1st Sunday of Advent – Isaiah 64: 1 – 9

This is the beginning of the church year and a season of preparation for the Feast of the Incarnation, also known as Christmas. Exiled in a pandemic, we hear the words of Isaiah to the Israelite exiles returning to a destroyed Jerusalem. Pastor Benjamin's is called "Shaped By One Unseen."

Coming in December... Peace, Joy, Love, Gaudete Sunday, Longest Night, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, First Sunday after Christmas



THE ELECTION: SPECIAL PRAYER VIGILS

The Pastoral Staff (Pastors Ben, Lacey, and Rachel) invite you join us in a time of prayer on Election Day and the Day-After. Recognizing the anxiety many of us are feeling as we anticipate the outcome of this election, we will come together for two special prayerful opportunities:

- ❖ An election-day oriented Noonday Prayer on Tuesday, November 3rd at 12:00 on Zoom, and
- ❖ A Post-Election Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday, November 4th at 5:00pm on Zoom and at the church (sign-ups required for in-person gathering).

We hope you'll join us for one or both of these opportunities to sink into prayer, bringing to God our worries and anxiety, and possibly our voices of resistance and cries for peace. The Good News of the Gospel is that God is with us, Emmanuel, in these times of anguish as we face the unknown. God is present with us, and we can be present with each other as we pray. For more information, contact Pastor Rachel at pastorrachel@uccseb.org.

A third opportunity for Election Day prayer is to join with other congregations and people of faith in a Multi-Faith Election Day Vigil, Tuesday, November 3rd from 7:00am-7:00pm on Zoom. While a dozen West Coast UCC communities are hosting this event, anyone is welcome to join and participate, as long as they come in good faith to pray for peace, unity, and justice. To join the Zoom call, you're required to fill out this [Google Form](#) in advance (by November 1st), to sign up for a time slot and receive a link to the call. Alternatively, you may follow the vigil on FaceBook Live, hosted by First Congregational Church of Berkeley. ✨

Balcony View... SAFEKEEPING

By Michael Ott, Moderator

The Leadership Council's regular meeting was held on October 21 via Zoom video. One important agenda item was the discussion of our evolving and increasing attention to what it means to be a safe church. We are in the process of assembling a team to review our current Safe Church Policy. As part of this work, Pastor Lacey and our Council Member for Faith Formation Larell Fineren continue to train the leaders of our church's children's and youth ministry programs with an interactive class that focuses on understanding power dynamics between leaders and vulnerable people, practices for creating consent culture and capacity building for open communication.

On the cross, Jesus cried “into your hands I commit my spirit.” William Barkley points out that this prayer from Psalm 31 was the first prayer that every Jewish mother taught her children, and suggests that this prayer could very well be a prayer Mary and Joseph taught Jesus as a young boy. Adam Hamilton writes that the Greek word we translate as “commit” means “to entrust to someone for safekeeping.” We all have a need to trust in our safekeeping, especially when we feel scared, confused, uncertain, exhausted or vulnerable.

Our church is called to be different from the world around us where disrespect, abuse and neglect are common, where certain people are devalued, marginalized and taken advantage. Jesus spoke of us as salt of the earth and the light of the world, believers who will strive to treat all with love, dignity and respect.

In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 12, Paul proclaims that “We are one body, the body of Christ.” He continues, “The members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor.” We need to actively care for each other and pursue healing and wholeness.

Community Church continues our commitment to make safe the vulnerable in our congregation, community and world. I appreciate Pastor Lacey and Larell for their efforts to move our Safe Church Policy forward. If any of you want to join in, please contact either Lacey or Larell.

The Psalmist sings "Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. And therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. ☸"



LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY – OCTOBER 2020

The Leadership Council met for our regular meeting via Zoom teleconference on October 21. A summary of discussions and actions are highlighted below.

Financial Report: The financial report was presented. We ended September at \$36K over budget. Pledges remain solid with Local Church pledges being close to 100% of budget. Lower revenue from Facilities and Plate/Other gifts account for most of the shortfall. Expenses are 94% of budget. We have submitted final loan forgiveness paperwork to realize the \$43K of PPP funds as actual income. We have not tapped into the \$23K of reserves allocated for the 2020 budget.

Budget Committee Update: The budget committee is making progress. Forms will be sent out to Council members to request budget needs from all the ministry area teams and committees.

Council Meeting Attendance: An updated policy was presented and approved outlining guidelines for posting our monthly agenda and provisions for how members can attend and contribute to Council meetings.

Conestoga Huts: Council approved signing a Master Planning Information Form to submit to the City of Sebastopol to continue the process of gaining approval for purchasing and placing two Conestoga Huts in the parking lot at the church.

Pastor Rachel-- Going On Sabbatical

Dear Friends,

After five years of ordained ministry in your midst, I am so pleased and grateful to be engaging in a sabbatical. Many thanks to the Leadership Council for approving it way back in February, and for their understanding with the delay in scheduling it due to the pandemic. For many months, I have felt challenged to find “the right time” to schedule a leave with so much happening in our world and in the life of our church. I was worried when school started that having four children home for distance-learning might mean I would need to use my sabbatical to support their learning (admittedly, not an ideal way to care-take a sabbatical, as the time is intended for a combination of rest and focused study). But the dust has settled and our family has found a rhythm. And, the ministry teams I work with are also finding a pandemic rhythm. So, in conversation with Pastor Ben, Pastor Lacey, and my Leadership Collaborator Bobbie Johanson, a clear sense of timing has emerged, and I am planning to be on sabbatical from November 23-January 4th.



During this time of study leave I intend to learn more about grief work with families by taking webinars, watching youtube talks, and doing some intensive directed reading. My hope is to gain more perspective and skills to bring back to my work in the new year, in service to grieving families in our congregation.

And perhaps you already know this, but all three of your Ministers are eligible for a sabbatical after five years of Ministry with the Community Church, as stated in our Letters of Call. For full-time clergy, this means a 12-week paid sabbatical. Since I’m half-time, I will be away for 6 weeks. As the first of your three clergy to take a sabbatical at our church, I hope I can do right by the process!

I’ll be working in the coming weeks to make sure the teams I work with are well supported in my absence. If you have any questions or want to talk more, please don’t hesitate to reach out. Even as I look forward to some focused study time and rest, I am already looking forward to seeing you again when I return in January. ✿

With Gratitude,
Rev. Rachel Knuth
Associate Minister of Congregational Care



Communion Bread Recipes



As you prepare for Communion in your home, you’re invited to deepen your connection to community through our church’s bread recipes. Joanne Matson, who prepared our Communion Table (pre-covid), shares this recipe: [Click here](#) for our traditional bread. And Rachel Melone (recently moved to Georgia with her family), who prepared our gluten-free Communion bread, shares these two gluten-free recipes: [Click here](#) for our usual gluten free sourdough, or [click here](#) for a gluten free yeast bread. Our congregation celebrates Communion on the first Sunday of every month (this month: November 1st). Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. ✿

Wine Tasting Experience

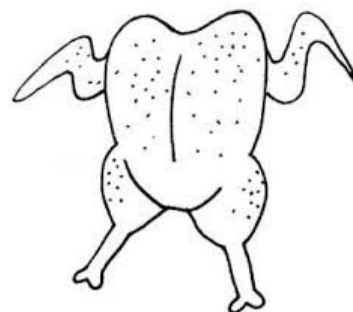


Join our own member and winemaker Andrea Card, Director of Winemaking at Coppola Wines, for an evening of (post-election) wine tasting Friday, November 6th at 7:00pm on Zoom. Andrea will be leading us through the process of tasting a Coppola Cabernet and Sauvignon Blanc. Experience a professional wine tasting in the comfort of your own home with great conversation and community. You can sign up by registering on Realm or emailing Pastor Rachel your RSVP by Monday, November 2nd. Once you've registered, you'll receive instructions on how to pick up your wine-- a bottle of red and a bottle of white, along with a link to the Zoom gathering. There

will be a cost of \$30 to cover the bottles of wine. All people over 21 welcome! This event is brought to you by the Congregational Life Team. For more information contact Pastor Rachel at pastorrachel@uccseb.org. ☸

Games Night

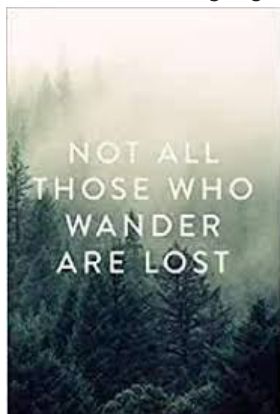
Join Kathy Bell and Brian Wetzel for a fun evening of online games on Sunday, November 15th at 7:00pm on Zoom. This is their third month of offering Games Night-- if you haven't had a chance to participate yet, it is super fun! Kathy and Brian bring levity, friendliness, and camaraderie to their leadership, so be prepared for laughter and engagement. This month they'll be leading a game called "Drawful" which is a combination of the game pictictionary and the word "awful!" Please sign up on Realm or by emailing Pastor Rachel by noon on Sunday, November 15th, and you'll receive a link to participate. This event is sponsored by the Congregational Life Team. For more information, contact Pastor Rachel at pastorrachel@uccseb.org. ☸



Advent Wanderings

The Congregational Life Team has been working throughout the Fall to offer opportunities for people in the congregation to connect with one another in this time of pandemic separation. In October, they asked themselves, "What do people really need right now?" They talked about how tired folks seem to be-- weary from wildfires, the looming election, pandemic, and so much more. And they came to the conclusion that, in addition to connecting events like wine tasting, games night, and book groups, the weariness people feel can't be addressed solely by social opportunities. So, the idea emerged to offer Advent Wanderings, to explore what deep spiritual hope we can hold onto in such a time as this.

And so the Congregational Life Team invites you to participate in "Advent Wanderings"-- be on the lookout for these events, beginning the first Sunday of Advent, and going into December:



Solo hike-- "Not all who wander are lost"-- A spiritual walk through the church campus, with prayerful stations to engage your senses and your spirit.

Wandering Journals for Advent-- Journals with prompts for you to write down one thing each day that is a blessing, what is rich and good and juicy and beautiful (uncovering what gives you hope).

Book Study of "Into the Wild" by Cheryl Strayed-- You can pick up the book and join a Zoom meeting to discuss how being in the wild is a metaphor for the times we're living in.

These opportunities to wander will be communicated in emails from the church office and in the December Newsletter, but you can start daydreaming about them now! For more information, contact Pastor Rachel at pastorrachel@uccseb.org. ☸

Faith Formation Ministries: Formed for Collective Care

by Rev. Lacey Hunter, Associate Minister of Faith Formation

As we head into November 2020, as we face whatever unfolds in and after the elections, and the winter months during a global pandemic, I find that I am reminding myself daily to turn my attention to the ways we can truly, deeply care for one another. There are remarkable, inspiring opportunities arising from this mess, including growing movements of mutual aid, just redistribution of resources and calls for equity. I want to share one particular practice of care that we are turning our attention to at Community Church.

In 2017 Community Church adopted our "Safe Church Policy." This policy is about creating a church community where everyone is safe from harassment and abuse. At the heart of this policy is the safety of those most vulnerable, including children, youth and vulnerable adults. These kinds of policies exist in many churches, across all denominations. It is one of the main ways we put our faithful care for one another into action.

Click the link to read our church's policy: <https://uccseb.org/docs/SafeChurchPolicy.4.5.2017.pdf>

I am delighted to share that on Saturday, October 3, 2020, we held our first Safe Church Training. The training was hosted on Zoom, facilitated by Larell Fineren, Council Representative for Faith Formation and myself, and was attended by nine children's and youth ministry lay leaders.

In this training we explored these three key elements for cultivating a Safe Church:

- Understanding power dynamics between leaders and vulnerable people
- Grounding our ministries in principles of consent culture
- Building capacity for clear, open communication

One of our main goals in these trainings and of this policy is to help us all co-create a community that honors one another's bodies and spirits, a community that is responsible for the wellbeing of the whole. ✿

Consent Culture

- Allows people to take ownership of their own body
- Does not assume anyone is okay with something
- Supports development of inner voice by recognizing and discussing feelings
- Takes everyone's opinions into account
- No means no. Have clear boundaries and rules. Follow through when you set limits.

Next Up on Creating a Safe Church

Safe Church Training

Zoom, Sunday November 22 from
1:00 -3:00 p.m.

Facilitated by Pastor Rachel and Pastor
Lacey

Safe Church Policy Task Force

In the New Year, the Leadership Council
will appoint a task force to review and
update the policy.

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Church Youth Service Project at Ragle Ranch

Reflection by Bobbie Johanson

On Saturday, October 17, eight youth and 3 adults worked with Ranger Michelle Karle at Ragle Ranch Sonoma County Regional Park. Instead of a zoom meeting this was an in-person, hands-on activity organized by Pastor Lacey. Our task was to shovel redwood chips from a huge mound in the parking lot into wheelbarrows and distribute the chips around oak trees. The idea is to mulch the area out to the dripline of the tree to protect the soil from getting too packed down by foot traffic and allow the roots to grow.



Ranger Michelle provided water and granola bars for us as well as gloves and tools. We started at 9 a.m. when it was a nice 72 degrees. We all wore masks, got our temperatures taken and did pretty well at keeping socially distanced. She also taught us about the different oaks in the park including valley, live, and black oaks. She showed us how different the acorns are from the different varieties. We got to see a woodpecker making a hole to stash another acorn in a branch of a tree that looked like it had thousands stored there already.

We mulched around a very large tree and several young trees. When we finished at noon it was a toasty 86 degrees and the chip pile was greatly diminished. The ranger was very pleased with what we accomplished in the heat and would love to have our group come again. Our age range was 11 to 16 years and on up to 70. We finished with a prayer of thanks for clean air, healthy bodies and most especially the opportunity to be able to gather together to do some good in our community.

Participants included:

- Bobbie Johanson
- Elia DelMonte
- Hope Madden
- Norah Hegedus
- Johah Knuth
- Owen Thomas
- Charlotte and Laurie Mitchell
- Faeona, Andreas and their mother, Maggie Petersen from Santa Rosa UCC ☸



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Church Youth Members Serve at Cumbria Garden

On Sunday, October 18, six youth members and two youth leaders gathered at Cumbria Garden, Garth and Norma Watson's garden that provides a CSA service to 20 - 30 local families and Muir's Tea Room with a 12-month supply of fresh vegetables, cut flowers, fruits and berries. Youth members worked in pairs to plant seeds and prepare starters in the greenhouse, planted starters and sowed seeds in outdoor beds, and harvested and prepared food baskets. Thanks Garth and Norma for hosting, Larry Stallings and Roger Wilson for chaperoning, and youth members Marin and Sophia Broadbent-Bell, Aaron and Tamar Knuth, and Holly Sparks for all of your incredible service! ☸



Tamar and Alina



Marin and Aaron



Holly and Sophia

November Birthdays

1	Jianna Gonzales
2	Judy Rice
3	Wynneth Longfellow
4	Katherine Dowdney
4	Brian Kautz
5	Daniel Arendt
5	Quinn Curtis
6	Marylou Hillberg
6	Julie Seth
7	Elise Peterson
10	Irene Bettendorff
10	Dan Rasmus
11	Jennifer Bowen
11	Colin Lovejoy
12	Benjamin Broadbent
12	Kristen DelMonte
12	Pat Furber
12	Harry Simms
13	Warren Brisbin
13	Debbie McCallum
13	Helen Olson
13	Robyn Pitts
14	Connie Ayers
14	Tom Terry
15	Dale Phillips
16	Ron Wessling
17	Ann Keller
19	Mary Doherty
20	Tyler Porter
20	Audrey Margulis
20	Will Wheeler
21	Bennett Davison
22	Ellen Stillman
23	Mark Nelson
25	Allie Buchanan-Curran
25	Karna Roa
26	Pete Emerson
26	Norm Stupfel
27	A.J. Felciano
28	Jon Gonzales
28	Charlotte LeRoy
28	Abbey Sawyer
28	Barbara Whitson
29	Jan Kahdeman
29	Stuart Mitchell

W.I.L.D.: Crisis & Resource

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L— Letting Go of self-sufficiency while wandering so that the people learn rely on God to provide for the people's needs.

D— Discernment at Mt. Sinai, the place where God makes a covenant with the people and gives them the tools (commandments) to create a neighborhood of mutual care.

Let us look around as we continue our sojourn through the wilderness threats of white supremacy, global pandemic, failed leadership, and environmental abuse. Here in the wild are resources we didn't know existed, gifts from a loving and liberating God who does not leave us to our devices but provides what we need for a time such as this and a place such as here and a people such as we. ✨



Drive-Thru Food Drive for Food for Thought

Hosted by the Community Church of Sebastopol

Help us provide our clients with trimmings for a festive meal this holiday season!

Date: Monday, November 16

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: parking lot

When ordering or shopping for your own holiday groceries, FFT would greatly appreciate it if shoppers could include any or all of the following items:

- ♦ Cranberry sauce
- ♦ Gravy
- ♦ Stuffing

The food items can be dropped off to the Food for Thought team on the day of the event in the parking lot. Please, no items with expired dates. Donations will be made from the safety of people's vehicles.



Outreach Committee Accepting Donated Turkeys

Nov 16th from 10 am to 4 pm.

Food for Thought provides healing nutrition and compassion for more than 1000 people affected by serious illness in Sonoma County.

If you would like to donate a turkey, bring it to Memorial Hall on Nov 16th.

If you would like to work a two hour shift collecting turkeys, call or email Peggy Porter. pporter501@gmail.com or 707-291-6353



LC MEETING SUMMARY

Continued from Page 3

Pray Their Names: Our church was given an opportunity to caretake and display a visual art installation called “Pray Their Names”, an honoring of people of color killed by police violence. After discussion, Council agreed that they need more time to lay some groundwork and explore ways of getting more people involved, both from the church and the community, with the hope of presenting the installation in the spring.

Pastor Ben Letter of Call: Pastor Ben requested that the format of his letter of call be revised to match our current format that was used for Pastor Lacey’s call agreement. The terms of the call agreement were not changed. The revised letter of call was approved.

Safe Church Policy Task Force: Work is planned to update our current Safe Church Policy. Training is ongoing for leaders of our church’s children’s and youth ministry programs. Feedback from the training sessions will inform how we will go about creating a task force to update our Policy.

Gratitude & Generosity Team Update: The G&G Team has a phone call evening planned to call people who have provided a pledge in 2020 but have not yet pledged for 2021, as well as thanking people that have already pledged. We currently have received pledges from 43% of our households with a total of \$213,645 for local ministries; 57% of the 2021 requested budget.

Marketing Team Update: The Marketing Team is making progress. They have formed three separate teams: Process Team, PR/Social Media Team and Design Team.

Ministry Staff Update:

/// **Pastor Lacey** – Fourteen of our youth participated in outdoor projects at Ragle Park. Future events are planned.

/// **Pastor Rachel** – Noonday prayers, Kindred Group in-person gatherings and game nights are happening. Pastor Rachel will be on Sabbatical from November 23, 2020 thru January 4, 2021. She will be doing deeper work on grief and how it affects our lives. She is currently making home visits and phone calls. The Congregational Life team is offering several opportunities for connection such as game night, bingo, book study, blessing of the animals, wine tasting, soul friends phone calls, and a spirit walk around the church campus.

/// **Pastor Ben** – Pastor Ben would like to have more discussion regarding the roles of the Council members and their ministry areas. It was agreed to do this in February after new Council members are appointed. A hiring committee has been formed to find a replacement for Julie Reimer, our departing bookkeeper. Minister of Music Brian Plaugher’s last day will be October 25.

Facilities: Several projects are happening including painting in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen and improvements to the Fellowship Hall storage room.

Outreach: The Outreach Committee is getting ready for Christmas projects. There will be Alternative Gift Catalogs and Christmas gift bags for the residents at Sam Jones Hall. The Safe Parking program is going well. We currently have five safe parking guests. Some of the guests have requested to use the kitchen in Fellowship Hall. It was decided that this would be a decision made by Staff.

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:

Michael Ott – Moderator

Kathy Bell – Council Officer for Personnel

John Henel – Council Officer for Finances

Larry Stallings – Council Officer for Facilities

Joyce Cox – Council Member for Outreach

Larell Fineren – Council Member for Faith Formation

Bobbie Johanson – Council Member for Care and Fellowship

Linda Roa – Council Member for Worship and Arts

Denelle Tognozzi - Clerk

NEIGHBORS IN NEED



The Community Church of Sebastopol is a "5 for 5" church, which means that, in addition to basic support of the wider settings of our denomination, every year we receive the four special offerings of our denomination, the United Church of Christ.

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

This year we will be receiving the Neighbors in Need offering in the month of November. You may contribute to this special offering by clicking [here](#). After logging in, choose "Neighbors in Need" from the drop-down menu. Thank you for your bold generosity on behalf of all of our neighbors in need.

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Are you missing being at church??? **Take a walk on the wild side....**

During the holiday season and Advent, we will be creating a 'Camp Caz' style solo hike through our beautiful campus with stations for prayer, contemplation, memories, inspiration, smiles and Joy!

More information to come...



Our annual Christmas Shoebox Ministry in 2020 is going to be...



Christmas Gift Bags for Residents of Sam Jones Shelter

A joint outreach of the Community Church, Stone Creek Zen Center, Hillcrest School and Sebastopol United Methodist Church

You are invited to either decorate a shopping bag or use a gift bag and fill it with the items on the list below. Please use full size items and include everything on the list.

Hints:

1. There is a new Dollar Tree by Food Max and Ross on Sebastopol Road and Stony Point in Santa Rosa. Saves a LOT of money!
2. You can split the list with a friend.

The bags can be dropped off at the Community Church parking lot by Fellowship Hall between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on these Sunday afternoons:

- November 22
- December 6
- December 13
- December 20



If you would like us to shop for you, please send a check to the church before Dec. 4. Please be sure to indicate that it is for a "Christmas Bag". The men's list costs \$33. Women's List \$37.

There are 130 residents at Sam Jones Hall, about half and half men and women. The lists were put together with the help of the staff at Sam Jones. The staff and residents truly appreciate your help!!

List for a Man

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Comb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lg. bar of soap | <input type="checkbox"/> Shaving Cream |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band Aids | <input type="checkbox"/> Mouth Wash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo/Cond. | <input type="checkbox"/> Deck of Cards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pk. of Tissues | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 candy bars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nail Clippers | <input type="checkbox"/> Disinfectant wipe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Washcloth | <input type="checkbox"/> Shower Towel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good quality disposable razors | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Socks | |

List for a Woman

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 candy bars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lg. bar of soap | <input type="checkbox"/> Net Scrubby |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band Aids | <input type="checkbox"/> Mouth Wash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pk. of tissues | <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo/Conditioner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shower towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Socks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nail Clippers | <input type="checkbox"/> Disinfectant wipes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comb or folding brush with mirror | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good quality disposable razors | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloring book with pens or pencils | |

Please include a card or note of good wishes to the recipient of your gift!



Alternative Gift Catalogs

Giving Alternative Gifts is a way to help someone in need and shop from the convenience and safety of your home!

The money goes to your chosen cause and you receive a card and insert describing your gift. For instance;

- \$1 provides 40 doses of medicine to people in isolated villages in Burma.
- \$18 provides school shoes for a child in Cambodia.
- \$10 provides eyeglasses for someone in Guatemala or Honduras.

This spring, due to the pandemic, Alternative Gifts sent a grant of \$1,200 to our Interchurch Food Pantry!

Here's how you can participate this year:

1. If you would like an Alternative Gift Catalog, please e-mail Joyce Cox at b-j-cox@att.net and one will be delivered to you or set aside for you to pick up Sunday, November 22, or December 6 between 1:00 and 3:00 in the parking lot by Fellowship Hall.
2. You can either mail or e-mail your order to Joyce and she will get the cards and gift inserts to you or you can pick them up in the parking lot December 6, 13 or 20 between 1:00 and 3:00.
3. You can also order online directly from Alternative Gifts International. Be sure to mention you are with the Community Church of Sebastopol.

Contact Joyce Cox b-j-cox@att.net 829-0750 8699 Mill Station Rd., Sebastopol



Events in November 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.

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| November 1 | All Saints/Souls Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Zoom
Bible Study, 9:15 a.m., Zoom
Kinship Time, 11:30 a.m., Zoom
Pledge Drive Kick-Off, 1:00 p.m., parking lot
Middle School Youth Group, 4:00 p.m., Zoom
Prayerful Gathering, 5:00 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 7:00 p.m., Zoom |
| November 3 | Election Day
Grounds Team, 9:30-12:00 p.m., campus
Noonday Prayer, 12:00 p.m., Zoom
Handbell Ensemble, 4:00 p.m. Zoom |
| November 4 | Piano Rehearsal and Recording, 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary, Bell Courtyard
Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom
Women's Bible Study, 10:00 a.m., Fountain Courtyard
Men's Group, 6:30 p.m. Fountain Courtyard |
| November 5 | Chancel Choir, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Zoom |
| November 7 | Rev Benjamin Broadbent's Ordination Anniversary (1999) |
| November 8 | Gratitude Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Zoom
Bible Study, 9:15 a.m., Zoom
Kinship Time, 11:30 a.m., Zoom
Pledge Drive Kick-Off, 1:00 p.m., parking lot
Middle School Youth Group, 4:00 p.m., Zoom
Prayerful Gathering, 5:00 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 7:00 p.m., Zoom |

November 10 Grounds Team, 9:30-12:00 p.m., campus
 Noonday Prayer, 12:00 p.m., Zoom
 Handbell Ensemble, 4:00 p.m. Zoom
 Mission and Outreach, 7:00 p.m., Zoom

November 11 Piano Rehearsal and Recording, 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary, Bell Courtyard
 Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom
 Women's Bible Study, 10:00 a.m., Fountain Courtyard

November 12 Marketing Team meeting, 3:30 p.m., Zoom
 Chancel Choir, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Zoom

November 13 Card Writing Ministry, 1:00 p.m., Zoom

November 14 Second Saturday Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Bell Courtyard

November 15 Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Zoom
 Bible Study, 9:15 a.m., Zoom
 Kinship Time, 11:30 a.m., Zoom
 Pledge Drive Kick-Off, 1:00 p.m., parking lot
 Middle School Youth Group, 4:00 p.m., Zoom
 Prayerful Gathering, 5:00 p.m.
 High School Youth Group, 7:00 p.m., Zoom
 Salt & Light Newsletter deadline

November 16 Food for Thought Drive Thru Food

November 17 Grounds Team, 9:30-12:00 p.m., campus
 Noonday Prayer, 12:00 p.m., Zoom
 Health & Safety Meeting, 1:30 p.m. Off site
 Handbell Ensemble, 4:00 p.m. Zoom
 Pastor-Parish Relations (Ben), 4:00 p.m., Zoom

November 18 Piano Rehearsal and Recording, 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary, Bell Courtyard
 Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom
 Women's Bible Study, 10:00 a.m., Fountain Courtyard
 Leadership Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Zoom

November 19 Chancel Choir, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Zoom
 Pledge Drive Follow-up Calls, 5:00 p.m.

November 22 Reign of Christ Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Zoom
 Bible Study, 9:15 a.m., Zoom
 Kinship Time, 11:30 a.m., Zoom
 Pledge Drive Kick-Off, 1:00 p.m., parking lot
 Middle School Youth Group, 4:00 p.m., Zoom
 Prayerful Gathering, 5:00 p.m.
 High School Youth Group, 7:00 p.m., Zoom

November 23 Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom
 Women's Bible Study, 10:00, Fountain Courtyard

November 24 Grounds Team, 9:30-12:00 p.m., campus
 Noonday Prayer, 12:00 p.m., Zoom
 Handbell Ensemble, 4:00 p.m. Zoom

November 25 Piano Rehearsal and Recording, 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary, Bell Courtyard
 Staff Team, 10:00 a.m., Zoom
 Women's Bible Study, 10:00 a.m., Fountain Courtyard

November 26 Thanksgiving

November 29 Advent 1: Hope Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Zoom
 Bible Study, 9:15 a.m., Zoom
 Kinship Time, 11:30 a.m., Zoom
 Pledge Drive Kick-Off, 1:00 p.m., parking lot
 Middle School Youth Group, 4:00 p.m., Zoom
 Prayerful Gathering, 5:00 p.m.
 High School Youth Group, 7:00 p.m., Zoom

Suspended until further notice:

- Showers
- UkeStars



The Community Church
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SALT & LIGHT

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

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