

# Tidings

The Newsletter of Woodside Road United Methodist Church  
"We Seek God, Welcome All, Love and Serve Our Neighbors"

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## October 2015

November Tidings articles are due by October 15  
November Tidings will be available October 24

Dear Friends,

October 4th is World Communion Sunday. It's also the day of the Peninsula CROP Walk (more about that soon). Our United Methodist Book of Worship says this about World Communion Sunday, "this day calls the Church to be the universal, inclusive Church. The day was first observed by Presbyterians in 1936, adopted by the Federal Council of Churches in 1940, and shortly thereafter observed in Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches." Which brings up the question, what does it mean to be the universal, inclusive Church?

In the 1930's and 40's when World Communion Sunday was first beginning, being an inclusive church meant recognizing the wide ranging family that is Christianity. It meant recognizing that Jesus' family is large and diverse, and practices following Jesus in a variety of different ways. This is work that we still do. We still engage with people of different Christian denominations in order to do Jesus' work in the world. In August this looked like partnering with Trinity Presbyterian Church when they hosted Home and Hope. In October it looks like participating in the CROP Walk to support the work of Church World Service as well as organizations here at home (CALL Primrose in Burlingame and the Ecumenical Hunger Program).

Over the decades the definition of what it means to be an inclusive church has grown. As United Methodists we declare "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors," but we know that doors to ordination and marriage are closed for some within our denomination. It's hard to be inclusive with closed doors. For some congregations and clergy being inclusive has meant agreeing to host and officiate at the weddings of same-sex couples because that is what open doors looks like to them. In our own Cal-Nev Annual Conference the Board of Ordained Ministry is doing work around what does it mean for ordination to be inclusive of the GLBTQ community.

Being an inclusive church is even bigger than partnering with other denominations and human sexuality. One of the questions to ask when we look at our own congregation is who is not here? And why aren't they here? We might also ask where are the places in our community where we aren't? And why aren't we in those places? Later on in October (the 18th and 25th) I'm going to spend a couple of Sundays talking about that scary word, "evangelism." I'm going to try and draw a distinction between evangelism which is sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and proselytization which is trying to convert people to Christianity. I believe that all of us are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ; I also believe that often the work of conversion is best left to the Holy Spirit.

*(Continued on next page)*

*(Pastor's article continued)*

More immediately, on this World Communion Sunday we will participate in receiving a special offering alongside United Methodist congregations across the country. This offering, which is one of six Special Sunday offerings of the UMC, "provides World Communion Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program. When you give generously on World Communion Sunday, you equip gifted, qualified students from around the globe to become the world changers God created them to be" (umcsgiving.org).

Wow! It turns out there is a lot to following Jesus. Following Jesus means considering where our money goes, it means being inclusive of people and places we might have ignored in the past, it means working and walking alongside people who might understand what it means to follow Jesus differently than we understand what it means to follow Jesus. It's a good thing we don't do it alone. I am so grateful that together we make up the branch of Jesus' school for learning how to love others known as Woodside Road United Methodist Church.

See you in church,

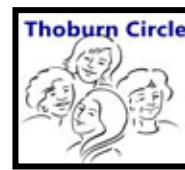
*Hattie*

### **United Methodist Women**

The El Camino Real District of UMW will hold its Annual Celebration on **Saturday, October 24, 2015, 8:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. At Hope United Methodist Church, 115 El Campo Drive, South San Francisco.**

The theme will be Celebrating Diversity, and the Keynote Speaker will be Rev. Staci Current, our new District Superintendent. This will be good! If you're interested in attending, contact Jane Day (janemday@earthlink.net or 650-384-5607).

Western Jurisdiction Meeting will be held in Salt Lake City April 22-24, 2016. If you plan to attend, start by making your hotel reservations.



**Members:** Alice Allen, Bev Barr, Evelyn Berk, Carole Clarke, Barbara Fleenor, Helen Lomas, Mary Marchini, Helen Marin, Jean Massing, Mary Nelson and Elizabeth Prasad.

**Absent:** Geneva Anderson, Doris Bogart, Betty Kibbe, Doris Rotella and Irene Zinkel.

Thoburn Circle members met on Labor Day, September 7, 2015, at 12:30 pm in Watters Hall. We brought a sandwich and Helen Lomas provided fresh fruit, cookies, tea and coffee.

Discussion centered on various current events happening in South and Central America, Africa and Mexico. Information was offered on the unfair labor practices in the Congo where children are used as cheap labor to support their families by collecting diamonds thus not allowing them to go to school. Mexico is still trying to find where and why 43 students disappeared. Mary Marchini taught us a brief history of South America. There was lively discussion about general current events. We plan to continue these discussions next month.

Prayers were offered for Doris Rotella, Irene Zinkel, and for all the others who are having health issues.

Twenty personal care bags were filled and Bev will take them to San Mateo Service League.

We adjourned at 2:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Helen Lomas**

### **October Coffee Assignments:**

Oct. 4, Bev Barr; Oct. 11, Elizabeth Prasad;  
Oct. 18, Helen Marin; Oct. 25, Mary Nelson.

### **Circle Dates and Hostesses:**

Oct. 5, Bev Barr  
Nov. 2, Evelyn Berk  
Dec. 7, Jean Massing, Luncheon Planner

### **2016**

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 4-Mary Nelson     | Apr. 4            |
| Feb. 1-Barbara Fleenor | May 2-Helen Marin |
| Mar.7-Carole Clarke    | Jun. 6-Luncheon   |



Stewardship takes thought and planning. It is not nebulous, something on which we all agree, but about which we do nothing. We do not just get around to stewardship someday. Stewardship includes time and talent as well as money. Life itself is a stewardship given to us in trust from God. All we have has come from God. That is the reason for reflection before planning. We need to reflect upon or pray about what God has given to us. Then we respond as good stewards by properly sharing what God has given us.

While Stewardship is a year round process, we look forward to focusing on stewardship in worship and in study in November. See the article "November Sermon and Brown Bag Series" for more information.



Congratulations to Howard Macway who is receiving an *Unsung Hero* award from the Interservice Club Coordinating Council of Redwood City on Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am at the Veteran's Memorial Senior Center (1455 Madison, Redwood City).

We are invited to be part of the celebration. Lunch tickets are \$28. Reservations to be part of the celebration can be made through October 21<sup>st</sup> by calling First Church Redwood City at 650-369-0344.



### November Sermon and Brown Bag Series

How do you measure what you value? Where and when do you work and recreate? How do we define our community and who are our neighbors? And just what does justice have to do with stewardship? Beginning on November 1st and continuing on the 8th and 15th, Katie will lead us in a conversation around these questions. We will meet on Sundays after worship at 11:45am and the conversation will go for about an hour -- you are welcome to bring a lunch along with you (that's the brown bag part). Conveniently, these will also be the Sunday morning worship themes on the 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd of November (that's the sermon part). This discussion group will not meet on November 22nd because of the Stewardship Lunch scheduled for that day. This study and sermon series will be loosely based on *Money Enough: Everyday Practices for Living Faithfully in the Global Economy* by Douglas A. Hicks. Purchasing the book isn't necessary, but if you are interested it is available from a variety of on-line retailers including Cokesbury, Powells, Barnes and Noble, and Amazon.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financial Status as of 8 /31/15:

Income: \$127,335

Expense: \$119,091

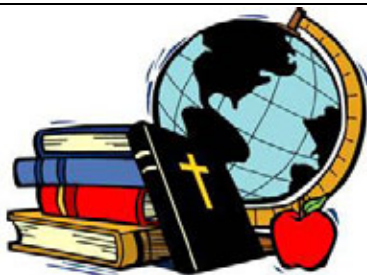
Difference: \$ 8244

## UMYF



Four of our youth will attend the Faith Xtreme 3 Retreat Sept. 25-27: Andre Antoine, Kilifi

Leaetao, Jane Petelo and Rebecca Frost. This is a conference-wide retreat planned by Kelly Peterson, who is responsible for youth programs in our conference. It will be held at Mount Hermon Conference Center near Santa Cruz. Our pastor Rev. Katie Goetz will be with them Friday night and Saturday morning, and Jane Day will be there Saturday and Sunday.



### **Ecumenical Media Resource Center Open House**

Saturday October 3, 10am – 12:30pm  
Campbell UMC, 1675 Winchester Blvd,  
Campbell, CA  
[www.emrclibrary.org](http://www.emrclibrary.org)  
408-378-2532

This is open for anyone interested, and is an opportunity for you to browse the holdings of EMRC and meet other Christian educators, lay people and pastors. There will be 20-minute focus sessions where the staff will discuss various topics, including Using Social Media to Enhance Your Ministry, Adult Programming for Small Groups, Classic Christian Videos, and Young Children and Worship.

Displays will include ideas and materials for Advent and Christmas. EMRC is a rich resource for churches. It was founded in the 1980's and our congregation has always been a member. That means any of us can borrow materials any time, paying only the cost of postage.

If you're interested in going or learning more, contact Jane Day ([janemday@earthlink.net](mailto:janemday@earthlink.net) or 650-384-5607).



Did you know...?

... That the United Methodist Church is one of the 37 member churches that make up Church World Service (CWS)? Since 1946 CWS has been feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick, comforting the aged, and sheltering the homeless, while working with partner organizations like the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

On Sunday October 4, 2015 the San Francisco Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk will take place in Burgess Park in Menlo Park at 2pm. The CROP Walk is the original fundraising walk in the United States. By gathering sponsors we can raise money for CWS's work around the world and the Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto and CALL Primrose in Burlingame here at home. See Katie ([katiemgoetz@gmail.com](mailto:katiemgoetz@gmail.com)) for more information.



The fall Adult Study Class continues through October 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 -9:45am. We are using

“Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living” by Rueben P. Job, coordinated by Janice McOmer. The basic three rules are: Do no harm, Do good, and Stay in love with God.

We will be trying different versions of adult Bible study to fit the needs and desires of our members (including “bag lunch” sessions after church). Volunteers to coordinate each (4 to 6 week) session are being recruited. Any interest? Talk with Janice McOmer ([jmcomber@aol.com](mailto:jmcomber@aol.com)) or Pastor Katie ([katiemgoetz@gmail.com](mailto:katiemgoetz@gmail.com)).



## How We Fight Hunger

**Bay Area Food Banks** acquire millions of pounds of food for distribution by collecting donated food through community food drives, by trucking in donated surplus groceries and fresh produce from manufacturers, wholesalers and produce growers, and by purchasing selected food items that are needed for food assistance programs in the community. We depend on thousands of volunteers to help us sort, pack and deliver food.

Though most of our food is donated, we are able to obtain purchased food at low cost so that every dollar donated goes even further. In addition, each food bank serves targeted geographic areas, which prevents duplication of food distribution efforts and makes us highly efficient in providing nutritious food to adults, seniors and children who are in need.

Food banks are successful at reducing hunger because of tremendous local support. We depend on donors who generously give money and food, volunteers who sort and pack food in our warehouses and distribute bags of groceries, and advocates willing to speak to public officials and the media about solutions to hunger. Your help is needed more than ever as thousands of people in our community are living on the margins, barely holding on.

**The holidays are coming which increases the need in our community. Please remember to bring in your donations and put them in our food barrels in the narthex. Thank You!**



### Senior Fellowship Lunch

**Friday - October 30** - Halloween Luncheon, at Redwood City Veterans Memorial Senior Center, 1455 Madison Avenue. Meet at 11:45 to get your lunch ticket. Lunch will be served in the Redwood Room. No donation required.

Call Jean Massing 650-368-0561 any information.



A meager but meaningful donation recently made news at a church in Charlotte, North Carolina. In the collection plate one Sunday was an envelope with 18 cents and this message: "Please don't be mad. I don't have much. I'm homeless. God bless."

Pastor Patrick Hamrick was able to locate the donor to thank him in person. But the man wanted to stay anonymous, saying the gift was between him, the church and God.

The pastor praised the donor's bravery, saying, "We gratefully acknowledge that this individual, out of his poverty, has given all he had to live on." Like the widow's mite in the New Testament (see Mark 12:41-44), the 18 cents was truly a sacrificial gift.



**Life Line Screening**

Woodside Road United Methodist Church

**October 30, 2015.**

Pre-registration is required.

Call 866.653.6441

*Stroke/Carotid Artery, Atrial Fibrillation, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, Peripheral Arterial Disease, and Osteoporosis*

The church office has a few free screening certificates available for members. Please call the office if you would like to receive one.



Woodside Road United Methodist Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on 10/30/15. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete.

**In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners).**

**\*In the church office there are a few complimentary certificates for screenings. Please call the church office to inquire.**



**OCTOBER**

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Ty Swanson                        | October 2  |
| Mary Ellen Pense                  | October 2  |
| Jeff & Patti Riley (A)            | October 2  |
| Georgi La Berge & Warren Dale (A) | October 3  |
| Marlene Yoder                     | October 10 |
| Albert Hopkins                    | October 13 |
| Elizabeth Prasad                  | October 17 |
| Hulita Folau                      | October 20 |
| Beverly Barr                      | October 23 |
| Frank Taylor                      | October 25 |
| Nancy Brown                       | October 26 |
| Eric Brown                        | October 26 |
| Wendi Brown                       | October 26 |
| Geneva Anderson                   | October 28 |
| Betty Kibbe                       | October 30 |
| Ben & Hulita Folau (A)            | October 30 |

**NOVEMBER**

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Sara Dumanske                  | November 1  |
| Tiernan Weaver                 | November 1  |
| Katie Goetz                    | November 3  |
| Gordon Kibbe                   | November 6  |
| Jeff & Debra Clark-Trimble (A) | November 7  |
| Georgina Dussau                | November 23 |

If you do not see your name listed, it's because we don't have your birthday or anniversary information. Please let the church office know your information so that we may correct it.

**When wealth is lost, nothing is lost;  
when health is lost, something is lost;  
when character is lost, all is lost.**