

May 2018

Woodside Road United Methodist Church
2000 Woodside Road
Redwood City, CA 94061
Dated Material

Tidings

The Newsletter of Woodside Road United Methodist Church

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May 2018

June Tidings articles are due by May 15.

June Tidings will be available on the last Sunday in May.

Dear Friends,

If I titled newsletter articles, I might title this one, *Why We Send Our Youth to Sierra Service Project*. At the churches where I've served I've had the privilege of introducing Sierra Service Project to the congregation and youth. This year, for the first time in 10 years, I'll get to go along on the mission trip to Smith River, CA (complete with the new box on the top of our Mazda 5 van). You may remember that last year our United Methodist Youth Fellowship went to San Diego to serve with SSP. This year they are heading north!

Sierra Service Project has been part of my life since I first served on a Native American Reservation in Northern California in 1992. Since that time, I've gone on to serve as a summer staff member, Board member, and adult counselor (the role I'll have again this summer with our UMYF). I don't remember if I heard the SSP statement of theology while I was attending SSP as a teenager, but I certainly saw it lived while I was growing up, and have hopefully lived it for youth while I've served SSP as an adult. You can read the whole statement here (<http://sierraserviceproject.org/theology/>). I lift up this part to you as the answer to the question, "Why Sierra Service Project?"

Through our acts of service, we allow the grace of God to flow into and through our lives. We understand that all people are valuable, carefully fashioned in God's image and we are freed to accept the essential humanity of each person we meet. In reaching out to others, we follow the example of service set forth by Jesus Christ.

We live in a world that looks for one thousand different ways to divide us. Whether it's by race, gender identity, sexual orientation, education, socio-economic status, mental capacity – so much of the world wants to create "us" and "them." So much of the world wants an "in crowd" with everyone else standing outside the circle. But in the church, we're asked to do something different. As I write this, yesterday's scripture text from John, where Jesus tells his disciples that he has other sheep, is still in my head. Even in the church, though, it can be hard to draw the circle wide. If it wasn't Jesus wouldn't have had to tell his disciples about having other sheep, and that being okay.

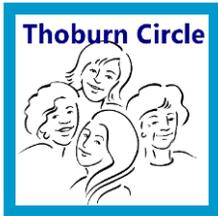
So, we need to practice. We need to practice radical hospitality. We need to practice "understanding that all people are valuable." We need to practice "accepting the essential humanity of each person we meet." Sunday morning is one of those opportunities to practice. Serving at First Steps Family Shelter (come join us cooking on June 1 or serving on June 2) is another opportunity to practice. Voting, on or before June 5th, for a candidate who may not represent your interest, but represents a community on the margin is an opportunity to practice. And so is Sierra Service Project. So it is with great joy that I look forward to attending SSP with our youth and their volunteer leaders. It is with great joy that I look forward to four years from now when Tiernan is old enough to go to SSP (watch out world). It is with great joy that I look forward to our youth and leaders bringing back SSP's radical inclusiveness to all we do here at Woodside Road UMC.

See you in church,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katie".

P.S. See the article about the SSP luncheon on May 6th after worship. Come support Ashley, Nico, Rebecca, Andy, and Vince and me as we prepare to serve this July

United Methodist Women



Thoburn Circle

Members: Evelyn Berk, Carole Clarke, Jane Day, Barbara Fleenor, Katie Goetz, Anne Hinton, Helen Lomas, Helen Marin, Jean Massing and Mary Nelson.

Absent: Alice Allen, Bev Barr, Jane Day, Betty Kibbe, Helen Marin, Mary Marchini and Elizabeth Prasad.

The Circle members met at noon on Monday, April 2nd in Watters Hall for lunch. Jean Massing and Evelyn Berk were hostesses who served fresh fruit and breads for refreshments.

Anne asked a question about Easter and what kind of feelings it conveyed to individuals. The members expressed various emotions that were felt from early childhood days to present events. Katie offered a historical perspective regarding the crucifixion.

Our prayers were for Barbara Fleenor who had a fall and has returned home and for Helen Marin who was not feeling well.

Bev had already prepared fifteen personal care bags and taken them to the Service League.

Our next meeting will be on May 7th at 12 noon in Waters Hall. Carole Clarke and Helen Marin will be hostesses.

Helen Lomas

Triple S

The next meeting will be at Harry's Hofbrau on Tuesday, June 4th at 6 pm.

Finance Committee:

Financial facts

3/31/18

Income \$44,801

Expenses \$50,115

Deficit \$5,314

OUR TIME

We did nothing to earn the hours, the days, the weeks of our lives. Time is a gift of God. How we choose to use it is a matter of stewardship. Some people lead lives of frenetic activity, always over extending themselves to the point of exhaustion, while others sit around in apathetic boredom. Some spend all their hours serving the needs of others at the expense of their own, while others live only for themselves.

As Christian stewards we try to manage time wisely and in a balanced way. We give our time gladly to family and friends, to strangers, to the community the church and to ourselves.

UMC Stewardship

Birthdays

Elijah Folau	May 2
Kristen Nelson	May 2
Rosa Pissani	May 4
Lisette Fletcher	May 8
Jose Mauricio Rendon III	May 17
Nico Guarino	May 18
Galen Leach Taylor	May 24
Greg Brown	May 28
Roger Stern	May 29
Ben Folau	May 31
Rachel Petelo	May 31



Adult Spiritual Formation

Join us most Sundays following worship for a time of prayer, scripture reading, discussion, and spiritual growth. Sometimes we're using a video series, sometimes reading a book together, sometimes focusing on discovering new prayer practices. Come be a part of this group the discovers where God is at work in our lives

A Wrinkle in Time

Perhaps you've seen the movie because you loved the book or your children loved the book. Perhaps you read the book as a young person and want an excuse to read it again. Perhaps you've never read the book and are looking at an excuse to do so. Join us on **Tuesday, May 1st at 7:30pm** for a time of conversation about A Wrinkle in Time, faith, the work of Madeleine L'Engle. 40-Day Journey with Madeleine L'Engle will also serve as a resource for our time together.

Summer Sunday School

Throughout the school year, Cathy Taylor has lead the preK-5th grade Sunday School class. Week in and week out she has prepared for children ranging in age from 3 to teen! (Ashley is a high school junior who joins in the fellowship and learning sometimes.) As summer approaches we are looking for people to offer Summer Sunday School to the youngest members of our congregation. You can volunteer for a Sunday or a whole summer. Sign up on your own or with a friend!

Curriculum and material will be provided. We are looking for leadership on the following Sundays:

<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
June 3	July 1	August 5
June 17	July 15	August 19
June 24	July 22	August 26
	July 29	

First Steps Service Opportunity

Join us as we cook for First Steps Family Shelter in San Mateo on Friday June 1st in the Watters Hall kitchen. Cooking will begin at 9:30am. We are scheduled to serve brunch at First Steps on Saturday June 2nd. We arrive at about 10:45am to set up and serving and clean up should be done by about 12:30pm. This is a volunteer opportunity for people of all ages. If you are interested in volunteering please let Katie know (katiemgoetz@gmail.com) so she can send you the sign up link.

Sierra Service Project Luncheon on May 6th

You've read Katie's article about Sierra Service Project. Now come support the team that will be serving in Smith River July 8-14. We have 3 adults and 3 youth signed up to volunteer for a week in this rural community in Northern California. Our United Methodist Youth Fellowship will host a luncheon following worship on Sunday, May 6th to raise funds to help cover the costs associate with this trip. Each person attending SSP costs \$365 for the week. This covers all construction material, food, lodging (which is always glamorous – okay, I jest), as well as summer staff salaries. The youth are also raising money to cover transportation costs to and from Smith River. Note: Sierra Service Project has space available for more youth to participate during the week we are in Smith River. If you know of any middle school or high school age youth who might be interested let Katie, Vince, or Andy know!

Mid-morning Weekday Prayer, Study, and Fellowship

Beginning on Tuesday May 8th at 9:30am a new mid-morning study and prayer group will launch! Together this group will journey in prayer and scripture through spiritual practices such as the examen, holy listening, and lectio divina (or holy reading). Everyone is welcome to participate.

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3  Choir Practice 7:30 pm	4	5
6 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun School 11:45 UMYF Luncheon for SSP	7 Thoburn Circle  Noon Watters Hall	8 9:30 am Mid Morning Study Trustees 7 pm	9	10  Choir Practice 7:30 pm	11	12
13 10:30 Family Worship 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	14	15 9:30 am Mid Morning Study 2:30 Finance 3:30 Ad Council	16	17  Choir Practice 7:30 pm	18	19
20 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun School 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	21	22 9:30 am Mid Morning Study	23	24  Choir Practice 7:30 pm	25	26
27 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun School 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	28	29 9:30 am Mid Morning Study	30	31  Choir Practice 7:30 pm		