

September 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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September 2018

October Tidings articles are due by September 15.

October Tidings will be available on the last Sunday in September.

Dear Friends,

For the past ten weeks across worship and Sunday school we've focused on the theme of Invitation. We've heard stories of how God invites the most unlikely people into relationship – folks who are scoundrels and rascals, folks who've been told they're "less than," and folks who just need to be reminded that God loves them even when they feel unlovable. As our time of Invitation draws to a close, we'll be reminded that God's invitation doesn't end. Over the next two weeks we'll experience the stories of Pentecost and Holy Communion and how both stories are themselves invitations. In the story of Pentecost from the book of Acts we'll hear how these early followers of Jesus were invited into

times of learning, fellowship, shared meals, and prayers. When we hear the story of Communion from 1 Corinthians we will hear Jesus' invitation to remember him when we eat together, and how the invitation to remembrance and the shared meal is for everyone, not just for some.

This, of course, brings us to the big "so what?" Why does it matter that we've been talking about Invitation all summer long? Why does it matter that we've sung about loving God with everything that we are, coming and finding the quiet center, and about gladly gathering all who hunger? Why does it matter that we've prayed about building community, drawing the circle wide, and offering hospitality? The answer is, at least in part, that it matters because what we sing, say, and pray shapes us as people and shapes us as followers of Jesus.

It makes Tiernan crazy, but every night we have him and his sister do at least four "Dear God, thank you for..." statements as a bedtime prayer. We do this in part because we want to nurture a relationship between our children and God, but also because expressing gratitude is good for you. What you say has the power to shape how you think. So it is with our worship. When we sing, say, and pray invitation we become people who are shaped by God's invitation to us and the invitation we are called to extend to those around us.

"Uh-oh, is my pastor starting to write about evangelism?" you might be thinking right now. "I don't want to invite people to Sunday morning, it might feel pushy," you might be thinking right now. If you don't want to invite someone to Sunday morning, if that feels like too big of a risk for you, we have a couple of easy points of entry coming up on our church calendar. September 8th is the campfire night, September 21st and 22nd is cooking for and serving at First Steps family shelter, and October 27th is the Halloween Party and potluck. But if you do want to invite someone to Sunday morning it's worth knowing that our Sunday school program starts off again on September 16th! And in October we're going to be talking about money and how we can cultivate positive relationships with money and practice generosity.

All of us are here because somewhere along the line we were invited into relationship with Jesus. Maybe you were invited to youth group as a teenager. Maybe you've been going to church since you were an infant, and that first act of invitation took place before you even knew it. Maybe you were nudged into a church by the still, small voice of God and found a community you didn't know you were looking for.

In our world today there are people who are looking for a relationship with Jesus. I don't know of many folks who are looking for one more thing to do, or something else to put on their calendars, but folks are looking for community, for ways to make a difference, for ways to touch something bigger than themselves. Here at Woodside Road UMC we have that opportunity to be community, to make a difference in our world, to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. As fall approaches and the rhythms of life shift once again, let us do the work of continuing to become a community that draws the circle wide, offers hospitality, and is the quiet center for those who are hungry.

See you in church,

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



The future meeting dates for Thoburn Circle for this year are:
October 1 * November 5 * December 3

Triple S

The next meeting will be at Harry's Hofbrau on Tuesday, September 11th at 6 pm.

September Birthdays

Lisa Hicks-Dumanske	September 1
Debra Clark-Trimble	September 6
Harry Sillin	September 7
Katie Sillin	September 7
Cindee Kibbe	September 10
Patti Fletcher-Riley	September 12
Lauren Righini	September 12
Carla Sillin	September 14
Cleo Susan Guarino	September 20
Janice McOmber	September 21
Mary Marchini	September 29
Marshall Serkes	September 29
Evelyn Berk	September 30

Anniversaries

Carla & Harry Sillin	September 4
Jim & Marlene Yoder	September 25

Finance Committee:

Financial Facts

6/30/18

Income \$95,207
Expenses \$102,435
Deficit \$7,228

Financial facts

7/31/18

Income \$109,653
Expenses 124,163
Deficit \$14,510

WE GIVE

To belong to our congregation is to be a steward. Some may say that "stewardship" is just a polite way of referring to financial giving to the church. But it far from that.

One character in some of Jesus' parables is the steward ---the servant character charged by the master to care for the man's property. It is the master, not the steward, who owns the property, but the stewards responsible for it and is accountable to the master. So, it is, said Jesus, between God and us. As God's stewards, we have three responsibilities:

Receiving: We receive with joyful thanksgiving the many gifts that God showers upon us --- time, talent, treasure, our bodies, our friendships, natural resources, and the beauty around us.

Managing: We take good care of what we received. We manage those resources wisely, for our own good and the good of others.

Giving: Out of gratitude in receiving so abundantly, we want to share with others.

UMC Stewardship



Work Day September 8th 9am to noon

Join Woodside Road UMC and Templo La Luz for the September all church work day. Help us with yard work, cleaning, and general maintenance. All skill levels welcome. (And there are donuts. 'Cause everyone loves donuts.)

Campfire Night

It's campfire time again! Get ready for 'smores, songs, and skits. Join us on **September 8th from 6:30pm to 8pm** for an evening of fellowship and fun. We'll gather together in the Alameda parking lot.

Sunday School for grade preK-5

Sunday school resumes Sunday, September 16th following the youth moments in the worship service. The curriculum is Deep Blue Kids "At Home with God." Together our kids will learn what it means to be a member of God's family as they explore different kinds of families in the Old and New Testaments. We are still looking for volunteers to help lead Sunday school. Please let Katie (katiemgoetz@gmail.com or 650-260-3414) know if you are interested.

Cooking for and Serving at First Steps Family Shelter in San Mateo

Friday September 21st -- Cooking brunch in Watters Hall from **9:30am until 12:30pm**

Saturday September 22nd -- Serving at First Steps **10:45am until 1:00pm**

Both volunteer opportunities are open to people of all ages and stages. Signups in advance for serving are required by First Steps. Signups in advance for cooking are helpful, but not necessary. If you can only come for part of the cooking time, that's ok too. We have all sorts of service opportunities in the kitchen. Please contact Katie for more details (katiemgoetz@gmail.com).

Save these Dates!

1 - Monday, October 17th, 7pm in Watters Hall – League of Women Voters presentation on the 12 initiatives/measures that will appear on our November ballots (will probably run 1 ½ hrs).

2 – Saturday, October 27th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm Halloween Potluck and Costume Party

3 – Sunday, October 28th after worship. Stewardship Taco Luncheon

Everyone is welcome to these all-church fellowship celebrations

4 – Sunday, October 7th at 2pm

The CROP Walk is coming to Nealon Park in Menlo Park. Walkers of all ages and stages are invited to participate (dogs too!). Donations support Church World Services Hunger Programs and the Ecumenical Hunger Project in East Palo Alto. More details: www.crophungerwalk.org/menloparkca

5 - Saturday, December 1 from 9am to 3pm Hometown Holiday Photo Booth (2-3 shifts)

Volunteers needed for set up and breakdown, and to help with costumes. Last year we had 37 families dress up and take a picture with us. We are sharing the real reason to celebrate Christmas. Please contact ElaineStern@hotmail.com or by phone at 650-238-8058.

6 - General Conference 2019

You may have heard that there will be a special General Conference of the United Methodist Church in February. This conference will consider three proposals for structuring our life together as United Methodists with specific attention to how we welcome (or in some cases don't welcome) our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters. Because this conference is taking place **February 23-26**, you're invited to be in prayer for the Conference each day from 2:23-2:26 p.m. (or a.m. if you are awake then). If you want to learn more, Katie is willing to host some forums, small group discussions. Please let her know if you are interested.

Sept 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:30 Worship 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	3 Thoburn Circle  Noon Watters Hall	4	5	6	7	8 Work Day 9 am - noon  Campfire Night 4-8 pm Alameda Parking Lot
9 10:30 Family Worship 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	10	11 Triple S 6 pm Harry's Hofbrau	12	13	14	15
16 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	17	18 3:00 Finance 3:30 Ad Council	19	20	21 Cooking for First Steps 9am-1 pm Watters Hall	22 Serving at First Steps 10:45 am - 1 pm
23 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation						