

The Communiqué

Santa Clara United Methodist Church

1700 Lincoln Street • Santa Clara • California • 95050

Vol. 44– Issue 10

OCTOBER 2018

Dear Friends,

Summer is gone. Fall is now in full swing. As a community of faith, we continue to live by God's grace through all ministries and events in our church.

Psalm 1 was my devotion scripture today.

¹ Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

² but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.

³ He is like a tree
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers.

⁴ The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the
judgment,

nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous;

⁶ for the LORD knows the way of the
righteous,

but the way of the wicked will perish.

This Psalm is a prayer. It speaks to our church community. It shows us the sort of life that prayer and worship cultivate in us, and then the sort of life required for the prayer and worship to be fruitful. It's a life of peace, contentment, goodness, and hope.

What I like most about church is the sense of community. The company you keep matters. Church ought to be the village for raising our children and for becoming wise, good people. We should be holier and more outward-looking. At the same time, keeping the company of those striving for wisdom, goodness, holiness and a boundless passion to save the world. This will save your own soul.

The Psalmist speaks of meditating on God's law "day and night." The very zealous Jews kept

someone up twenty-four hours a day meditating on Torah to fulfill this. For us? We can have Scripture on our minds at least a lot of the day, perhaps echoing what Dorothy Day said late in her life: "I tried to remember this life that the Lord gave me — and I just sat there and thought of our Lord, and his visit to us all those centuries ago, and I said to myself that my great luck was to have had him on my mind for so long in my life."

The image of the tree planted by water is unforgettable, simple, profound. The tree thrives not because of what we see above ground, but what is transpiring unseen, underground. Such a person "prosperes," which we mis-hear in our capitalist, upwardly mobile society. Again, in a subsistence level economy, it's about living, being at peace, having enough, being part of a community and contributing to it, and receiving from it.

Our community of faith continues to provide the means of grace which we all can participate and take root in our faith. Here are the opportunities to serve and grow:

- Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 6pm.
- Last week, Family Storytime just started the fall session.
- Storytime mom's is collecting donations for Teen Challenge on Oct 11th.
- Fall retreat will be on Oct 20th.
- Kids Costume Party is on Oct 30th.
- Thanksgiving with friends is on Nov 22nd.
- Charge Conference will be on Dec 2nd.

Please take advantage of these opportunities so we all can fully experience this great community of believers and bring the love of Christ to others.

Blessings,
Rev. Vathanak Heang

Children's Ministry Corner **Julia Borjeson**

Greetings! Fall is here!
Our kids are celebrating the
transition into Autumn
with lots of learning and fun
activities--
Here's what's going on and coming
up!

Sunday School

After our "Kids Huddle" during our
Sunday Worship,
All kids are dismissed to join our
weekly
Sunday School classes where we
teach bible-based discipleship
lessons reinforced with an fun
fellowship, an activity, craft, or study
packet.
We return your kids to our Worship
Service so they can
join their family for our weekly
sacrament of communion.

Family Storytime

Our Fall session of Storytime is held
every
**Tuesday and Thursday from
11am-12:30pm.**
Sept 18th through Nov 20th
This is a special FREE outreach
program
open to all families with preschool
aged kids from 0-5ish.
We offer a program based on
acceptance, kindness and learning
for all neighbors in our community of
every culture.

Kids learn pre-K preparedness
skills through songs,
interactive stories, learning
activities, crafts, and outside play.
Parents enjoy fellowship with other
parents, cultivating friendships
for themselves and their children
while preparing their kids for
our American school system. We
include a summer reading program,
and
an ongoing reading library for our
kids and parents to explore!
We are spreading the Love of Christ
by meeting an important need...
To welcome neighborhood families
and their children with love into
our community and the Body of
Christ (Our Churchbody of
believers).

Storytime Mom's Community Project:

Mom's are gathering donations for
TEEN CHALLENGE
women and children's shelter.

Thursday, October 11th
12noon Community Playground
Area

FALL FUN COSTUME PARTY!!

Kids Costume Party
All kids Welcome!
Tuesday, October 30th 11am-1pm
Community Playground
Area

United Methodist Women

We have several exciting UMW events taking place in October. Our UMW unit will have a meeting on Wednesday October 10th at 1:00pm and the planned topic is the World Thank Offering. At that meeting we will also assemble UMCOR health kits consisting of a bag with a hand towel, washcloth, toothbrush, comb, bar of soap, nail clippers and 10 Band-Aids. Please look for more information from Maria about what items are needed.

There are also two annual UMW meetings happening in October:

Saturday October 20: The California Nevada Conference UMW will have our annual meeting at Campbell United Methodist Church from 8:45am to 3:30pm. The speaker will be Shannon Priddy who will be speaking on “Legacy: Harvesting with the Holy Spirit”. The cost for the meeting is \$23 including lunch or \$10 without lunch.

Saturday October 27: The El Camino District UMW will have our annual meeting at First United Methodist Church of Sunnyvale from 9:30am to 3:30 pm. The cost for the meeting is \$15 including lunch. The speaker will be Pastor Lindsey Kerr who will be speaking on “The Power of Bold: Justice with Compassion”.

Green Corner: Styrofoam Coffee Cups

Kudos to those church members who are bringing their own ceramic mugs to church for the social hour. This is one small way we can both reduce our expenses (by not buying Styrofoam cups) and help our environment. Please consider joining those folks and BYOM (bring your own mug) to church. We are also looking at ways that we can increase our recycling at church – if you have any good ideas, please see Lisa Hatchett or Emma Cruz.

Did you know that plastic bags are not to be recycled in the recycle bin? Several grocery stores have receptacles for plastic bags. Also, please rinse any food residue from the bottles, plastic or cans before placing them in the recycle bin. If your recyclables get contaminated with food, it will not be sent to the recycling center but will likely end up in the landfill. Contact your local waste management company for more details on how to recycle correctly.

Operation Christmas Child

We will fill the shoe boxes with gifts on Sunday November 4th starting after the church service in Inman Hall. We already have the boxes and we will not need to wrap them this year. Once filled, they are sent by an organization called “Samaritan’s Purse” to needy children around the world. In addition to school supplies, we need the following items:

- small toys, balls, games, coloring books, books, musical instruments, sunglasses etc. Nothing related to war or military
- clothing items such as children’s shoes, socks, shirts, hats, simple dresses, pants, underwear. Whole outfits are wonderful.
- Toiletry items such as combs, washcloths, hair bands, bar soap, toothbrushes

Thanksgiving With Friends

Thanksgiving is a holiday where we celebrate with friends and family and give thanks for our many blessings. We will continue with the tradition started a few years ago and have a potluck Thanksgiving dinner at the church. All are invited – church members, family, friends, neighbors, children and adults. Mark your calendars for Thanksgiving with Friends at Church on Thursday November 22 and watch for more information in the November Communique.

All I Want for Christmas is...SCRIP!!

It’s never too early to start thinking about Christmas gifts. Please consider purchasing gift cards from the church to use as Christmas gifts. Rich Hatchett runs the program and he has gift cards for restaurants, retail stores, grocery stores and he has access to get cards from many retailers. The church benefits from every sale and you get all your Christmas shopping done early!

Special General Conference

After a long discussion on LGBT equality, the 2016 General conference decided to call for a special general conference on February of 2019. Then the Council of Bishops started a task force team called The Commission on a Way Forward to explore options that strengthen the unity of the church.

The 32-member Commission has been meeting since January 2017. In early May of this year, the commission finalized their report in English. On July 31st, the commission released the final report in four official languages of the United Methodist Church.

You can find the report via this link:

<http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/way-forward-report-released-in-all-four-official-languages-of-general-confe>

Upon receiving the report, the Council of Bishop released a recommendation which can be found via this link: <http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/united-methodist-bishops-recommend-a-way-forward>

If you would like more information, please contact me. I urge that we lift up our church in prayers as we are going through this time of discernment.

Blessings

Rev. Vathanak Heang



- 10/1 Berta Schenaker
- 10/5 Linda Eserini
- 10/10 Joyce Wilkinson
- 10/15 Zoe Gray
- 10/16 Florentina Ciriales
- 10/19 Steven Bredenberg
- 10/23 Larry Olson
- 10/28 Vathanak Heang
- 10/31 Terry Flora

May you enjoy the Lord's sweet presence on your birthday and anniversary and be blessed with a year full of love, joy, peace and hope.

Prayers of Healing and Support for the following people:



- Linda Eserini
- Jack & Berta Schenaker
- Angelita Barbadillo
- Donna West
- Cynthia Rovnaghi
- Barbara Shaw
- Selma Chung

Let us pray: Lord, I believe in the healing power. Please reach down and surround

my friends with supernatural peace and strength and give them the faith and trust in you. Amen.

October Calendar

2	11-12:30	Family Storytime
3	6-7pm	Bible Study
4	11-12:30	Family Storytime
4	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
4	6:30pm	SONRise Band Rehearsal
7	9:55am	Sunday Worship
9	11-12:30	Family Storytime
9	6-7pm	Dinner is Served (JW House)
10	6-7pm	Bible Study
11	11-12:30	Family Storytime
11	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
11	6:30pm	SONRise Band Rehearsal
14	9:55am	Sunday Worship
16	11-12:30	Family Storytime
17	6-7pm	Bible Study
18	11-12:30	Family Storytime
18	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
18	6:30pm	SONRise Band Rehearsal
20	10-2pm	RETREAT
21	9:55am	Sunday Worship
23	11-12:30	Family Storytime
24	6-7pm	Bible Study
25	11-12:30	Family Storytime
25	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
25	6:30pm	SONRise Band Rehearsal
28	9:55am	Sunday Worship
30	11-1pm	Kid Costume Party

Please submit November Communique articles to santaclaraumc@yahoo.com by 10/25/2018

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