

THE COMMUNIQUE

Santa Clara United Methodist Church

1700 Lincoln Street • Santa Clara • California • 95050



VOL. 43- ISSUE 2

Greetings!

Here we are in February of 2017. Time is flying fast. At the end of last year, we set some goals for our church. We want to see more people in Sunday worship service and on the membership list. We want to have a good youth ministry. We want to have a program for seniors. We want to improve on our Family Storytime. We also want to be responsive to our community's needs. In our church council meeting, people said those were great goals. Now it is time to make it happen.

ARE YOU READY?

God, creator of the universe, the One who is still creating, still uses human beings to do God's will, people like Moses, Jonah and Jeremiah.

Once the call is issued, an answer is required from the person called. Jeremiah's first response is "I don't know how to speak because I'm only a child". When Moses received his call, he asked the Lord to send someone else after his excuse that he didn't speak eloquently failed. Jonah tried to run away. To each one called, a promise is given, God will not abandon us. God told Moses, "I'll be with you". Jonah's pleas were heard because God was with him. Jeremiah heard, "Don't be afraid of them, because I'm with you to rescue you". God gave each messenger help and encouragement to give God's message to God's people.

God issues a call, and **we are to go forth in faith.** Just as Abram was called to leave his country and go to an unknown land (Gen 12:1), we may not be sure of our next step. God promises to be with us; what lies ahead may include danger, rejection, and hostility.

God's call to Moses, Jeremiah, and Jonah is specific: "I will tell you what to say"; "I have put my words in your mouth". Jeremiah's calling is to bear divine word to Judah and beyond. That is his task, to be God's voice to a backsliding world.

Look at yourself. **You are not too young or too old.**

The excuse that you are not a good public speaker was not valid for Moses or Jeremiah, and it isn't going to work for you either. If you are not good

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with words, then proclaim God's word with action. In a song called "*Do something*", there is a verse that reads,

"If not us, then who? If not me and you. Right now. It's time for us to do something."

Jonah tried to run away. It didn't work for him, and it won't work for us now because there is too much hopelessness and need in the world. We are surrounded by people who need to hear what God expects from God's people.

Our towns and cities need role models for living a Christian lifestyle, they need to see that following Christ is not dull or restrictive, but challenging and joyful.

God does not change; God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. God still calls ordinary people like Moses and Jeremiah to extraordinary jobs with supernatural results. Even these great prophets were a little reluctant at the beginning of their call, but with God's presence and guidance, they succeeded. God is calling. Are you ready?



Let us turn to God in prayer:

Dear Lord, you have a plan and purpose for each day of 2017. I ask for your guidance and your direction. I ask for motivational zeal to accomplish your goals. I ask for compassion to help me move through my days with an ever increasing love for others. In love and devotion, I pray, Amen.

Blessings,

Pastor Vathanak Heang

For more information, please check our church website: www.santaclaraumc.com

Food Barrel Project

It's time to start a new year of sharing and contributing to our food barrel. Last year we sent 4 full barrels. Congratulations!!



Let's do it again this year. The **February's theme is canned food** but feel free to contribute anything you want.

Remember—NO GLASS.

As we start a new year, let's come together as a church family and reach out to help those in need in our community

Why choose SCUMC?

Apart from my childhood roots, this church offered me a place to establish my adult roots as a young Christian, learning and growing in discipleship. I was able to share and develop the gift God gave me in loving, accepting environment. I raised my children in this church, taught Sunday School, and eventually felt called to devote my life to God's work, that when my church invested in me and what service God has called me to share. I feel loved and needed, and I feel comfortable in our likemindedness as well as the freedom of individuality here.

Blessings,
Julia Borjeson

HANDS & HEARTS

Fifty-three lap robe quilts were completed in 2016. These beautiful creations provide warmth and comfort to many veterans who receive medical



services at the Palo Alto hospital. In the last thirteen years this project has distributed over 700 robes to worthy

individuals.

Consider joining our fellowship on Thursdays 11- 2 in Inman Hall. No experience necessary, training graciously provided.

Keeping Our Church Strong

We thank God for all those who have given of their time & talents. Such good work. We need to work together as a family to keep our church home healthy. Please consider coming forward to help.

We need someone to be on the Board of Trustees,

which will supervise and maintain all property belonging to our congregation.

Please give prayerful consideration to how you might contribute. Please contact Pastor Heang with any questions or especially any suggestions.

Volunteer of the Month



Emma has a gift of hospitality, and eventhough she would rather be more like Mary, she is our Martha, making sure our house is supplied with food and supplies. She is inspired to help every that needs her.

Fellowship, birthday cakes, praise band, storytime, financial data entry... There are many times Emma gives much more than receives, and her family is much like her. Thanks God for Emma.

Current Sermon Series:

Do you need God? Let's talk about it.

Americans are migrating away from religion at an unprecedented rate; Christianity in particular. Why?
1/29 The Bible, which people knew.

2/5 **Jesus, whom people got confused.**

2/12 **God is good(?)**

2/19 **Who needs God?**

*Bring a friend



Ellamary Rickards	2/4
Brad Borjeson	2/11
Joelina Verducci	2/12
Estela DeGuzman	2/13
Delois Reynolds	2/16
Greg Burroughs	2/21
Selena Len	2/27



Happy Anniversary!

Elissa and Terry Flora	2/12
Joelina and Tony Verducci	2/25
Darlene and Allen Tuscano	2/26

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.

"...Times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19

Crab Feed!

Family, Friends, and Neighbors!

You're Invited!

Saturday, February 11th @ 5pm!

***Come and enjoy a great meal and
Fun Fellowship!***

Fresh Crab!, delicious pasta!,
crispy salad, Gilroy garlic bread +
a *yummy* assortment of desserts
any Valentine would **love!**

There will also be a Silent Auction for extra fun!

Come and be a part of our fun- fundraiser!!

Tickets on sale now! \$45

Santa Clara United Methodist Church

1700 Lincoln St. Santa Clara, CA 95050

Info? Tickets? +Silent Auction Donations:

Call Julia 408-375-8554

Children's Ministry Corner

Julia Borjeson

Greetings Parents, Grandparents,
Family and Friends!;

I'm looking forward to a great year
of opportunities to learn and grow
for our kids, and our neighborhood
friends!

In Sunday School; we are diving
into the Old Testament stories of
adventure and exciting ways God
has taught and prepared His people
for faithful discipleship! Moses,
Joseph, Noah, David, Jonah--little
or big these stories are the
foundation of our faith journey. We
are learning the stories Jesus grew
up learning!

**Family Storytime will resume
with our Spring Session on
Valentines day!** Tuesday, February
14th we will begin a whole new
session of stories, learning activities,
Pre-K Preparedness, crafts, songs
and FUN!

Easter is April 16th;
We will all be preparing starting
March 1st for our Lenten Journey
and a meaningful beautiful Easter
Sunday!

Vacation Bible school;
will be in June and we will be
starting preparations right after
Easter!

*Won't you prayerfully consider
joining in the fun and get
involved?*

Can you tell me what could be more
important than helping to provide a
strong foundation for our children?
I can't do it alone. I am inviting you
to come and be a part of an
important team... and our growing
church needs YOU!

We need an active, vibrant, spirit-
filled Children's Ministry
Department, right?

Here's how you can start....

***There will be a Volunteer Sign-Up
sheet***

for all Church Opportunities for
service in the Narthex.

**Our Church needs everyone to
participate in the call to service!
PLEASE SIGN UP FOR AT LEAST
ONE TASK!**

Every task matters!
...from Usher, to Communion, to
Fellowship, to garden maintenance,
to providing a snack for our kids, or
helping with teaching and
supervision.

**God is calling you....can you hear
him?**

I will also have the following
opportunity:

**Volunteer Information Booth:
Sunday, February 19th Inman Hall**

Questions? Call Julia 408-375-8554
Thank you all for your support and
prayers!

Prayers of Healing and Support for the following people:



Linda Eserini
Jack Schenaker
Christina Barini
Angelita Barbadillo
Ruth Piazza
Maria Brillante
Donna West
Cynthia Rovnaghi
Cora Oliver

Let us pray: Lord, your Word speaks promises of healing and restoration and I thank you for the miracles you still perform today. Today I claim those promises over my friends. I believe in the healing power. Please reach down and surround my friends with supernatural peace and strength and give them the faith to believe that all things are possible for you. Protect them from lies and discouragement and let their miraculous healing begin. Amen.

January Calendar

2/1	5:30pm	Bible Study
2/2	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
2/2	6:30pm	SONRise Band Practice
2/5	9:55am	Sunday Worship Service
2/7	6:30pm	Church Council Meeting
2/9	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
2/9	6:30pm	SONRise Band Practice
2/11	5:00pm	Crab Feed
2/12	9:55am	Sunday Worship Service
2/14	11-12noon	Family Story Time
2/14	6:00pm	JW House Dinner
2/15	5:30pm	Bible Study
2/16	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
2/16	6:30pm	Band Practice
2/19	9:55am	Sunday Worship Service
2/21	11-12noon	Family Story Time
2/22	5:30pm	Bible Study
2/23	11-12noon	Family Story Time
2/23	11-2pm	Hearts and Hands
2/23	6:30pm	SONRise Band Rehearsal
2/26	9:55am	Sunday Worship
2/28	6:30pm	Joint Church Council

Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Heang's office hours are:

Wednesday: 1pm-5pm

Thursday: 2pm-5pm

Friday: 1pm-5pm

If you would like to meet with him, please make an appointment with him directly or call the church office at 408-345-9300.

March Communique

Submission deadline for the September Communique to Pastor Heang is 2/21/2017

Contact Us

Do you have an idea for a story for the Communique? Want to sponsor an event? Please let us know! You can call us at 408-345-9300 or email us at santaclaraumc@yahoo.com. Want more details on what is going on at church? Visit our Facebook page (Santa Clara United Methodist Church) or our website (www.santaclaraumc.com).