

The

Valley Messenger

A publication of San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

What Does a Typical Pastor's Day Look Like?

5 a.m., and the alarm has not gone off, but my body wakes and starts problem solving. I step into the shower and think about my day ahead, just another day in my life. I think about this article and begin to plan how I might share what a typical day may look like as a minister. This is difficult because every day requires something new. Today will be full, but not much fuller than usual. I pray.

At 6 a.m., I am writing this article for the newsletter. I return to it throughout the morning in the gaps I can find. I look at my master list of church parishioners and my heart pangs. I had hoped to visit a family dealing with rehab and a myriad of health issues. I want to call them to check in. I have two people who are not being attended to by the church, and I want to be sure I find a moment to call them today. I pause to pray and hope that I will choose the right calls in the right order for what people need.

At 7:30 a.m., I walk my youngest to school and drop Heidi off at work. I walk part of the way to get some exercise.

At 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., I meet with my coach, a check-in to look at the way I'm using my time and how I can best learn and develop my skills. He pushes me hard, and it is humbling.

At 9:30 a.m., I promptly get onto a Zoom call with two parishioners who have asked for some time to process their thoughts on racism and to talk about some church issues that weight heavily on them.

At 10:30, I jump onto another Zoom call to problem-solve with Sarah, our social media guru, who focuses on the goal of transforming lives online.

At 11:30 a.m., I look at the Friday Memo and/or check-in with Patsy as needed. Then, I grab an Indian frozen meal and pop it into the microwave while I prepare for my next meeting.

March 2022

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Next Issue: April 2022

Have something you'd like included in next month's Messenger? Please submit your articles to: Lisa Jancarik at media@srvumc.org by **March 15, 2022.**



A Full Afternoon

I meet the associate pastor from Los Altos UMC at 1 p.m. and ask questions about their current platforms for registration and online communication. A lot of people are falling through the cracks, and we need a better system to deal with the new COVID-reality of 80% of people attending online. This is something I had promised the online small group I would investigate. I take notes and then shoot them out by email. In the middle of this process, I check email and get back to people in a timely manner if possible. Often, I also address four or five text messages.

In all the hurry of the day, I pause to check a text message. It is the fifth one today from a mother who has recently lost her teen child. We had spoken on the phone the day before, and I am searching for the right words of care to offer her a compassionate presence. I cannot imagine what she is going through.

Now, I had promised Rosalind I would look ahead to see the suggestions she has for music during worship for the next several weeks. I am so glad she has worked ahead, but I'm also feeling the pinch for time. I run out the door as I realize it's time to pick up the youngest from school. I bring her home and help her with homework. While she is getting started, I double back to look at my sermon for the following week and plan for my visit in the evening. I check on our memorial team to verify a date. I quickly sit down to dinner, and then I jump in the car to drive to Danville.

All We Can Really Do

At about 7:30 p.m., I am sitting with a family in deep mourning. We sit late into the night planning a service for a loss that was shocking and unexpected. Mostly, I listen and hold back my own tears. My body is aching from the pain of sitting with such despair. I roll into bed and keep the phone on in case this family calls in the night. I set the alarm for 5:30 a.m., and then roll in next to Heidi who is already sleeping. I smile wearily. Some people will undoubtedly think we are not working enough as ministers and that we just work on Sunday mornings. That's okay. Our focus is on the people, even when we fall short, and we don't have time to change anyone's minds. We just try to be faithful and love people. At the end, that is all we can really do.

Peace,

Pastor Mantu

P.S. Are your needs are falling to through the cracks? You matter! Please let us know because we love you and want you to live a full spiritual life.

P.P.S. As it turned out my day ended up a little different than written here as this was a reflection based on my calendar, and life always surprises. This narrative might help those of you who are considering a calling into ministry. If it speaks to you and feels like God may be calling you, please talk to one of us about next steps.



Announcements

And Now, the Real News (i.e., Answers to Last Month’s Staff Quiz)...

- *Sarah Stribling’s* (Director of Social Media and Communication Ministry) favorite sports team is New York Yankees.
- *Lisa Jancarik’s* (Newsletter Editor) favorite animals are **dinosaurs**.
- *Sol Cuenco’s* (Office Manager and Facility Manager) favorite pastime is **singing**.
- *Patsy Kyle’s* (Administrative Assistant) favorite color is **red**.
- *Pastor Daniel Kim’s* (Pastor of Korean Church at SRVUMC) favorite color is **green**.
- *Pastor Mantu Joshi’s* favorite ice cream is **Mackinac Island Fudge**.
- *Laura Roy’s* (Director of Family and Children’s Ministry) favorite hike is **Land’s End**.
- *Pastor Kim* always reads the **cartoons** in the local newspaper and *The New Yorker*.
- *Rosalind Neisinger’s* (Director of Music Ministry) favorite ice cream flavor is **strawberry**.
- *Jeff Lang* (IT Guy Extraordinaire, Acting AV Director) can’t get enough of **Salt and Straw’s** pear and bleu cheese ice cream.
- *Nadia Blank-Koliha* (Organist) loves playing piano and making **greeting cards**.

Your Generosity Made the Alternative Gift Catalog a Success!

At Christmastime, we introduced the Alternative Gift Catalog and the opportunity to give two gifts in one. You selected a local ministry to support, and then you made a donation in a loved one’s name. We supplied gift cards, and you made a difference in our community. **Through our Alternative Gift Catalog, we donated \$4515 to local ministries.** Thank you for supporting this way of celebrating Christmas!



TEXT "HERE" TO

(833) 533-1594

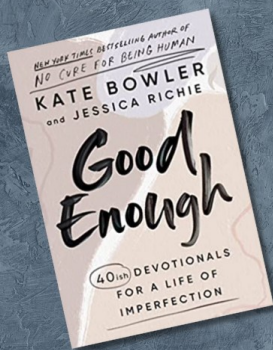
SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER REQUEST



Spiritual Growth

Good Enough:

Embracing the Imperfections of Life and Faith



The fellowship of small group discussion offers a deeper, personal connection to church and the Lenten message. The groups below plan to reflect on *Good Enough* during their Lenten meetings. You may be able to participate even if you aren't local.

Check out the next two pages for the list of weekly Lenten devotional readings.

Small Group Title	Open to New Members	Day/Time/Zoom	Facilitator	Description
Big Boys (Men's Group)	Yes	Tuesdays, 7 to 9 p.m.	Bill VanBezey, van-boneye@comcast.net	All ages, listening and caring for one another. Discuss current events, readings, sermons; Community outreach
Easter People	Not at this time	Wednesdays, 7-8:30 during Lent	Terry Sherman/ Sylvia Benzler	We started as a Lenten group years ago and decided to meet monthly to continue our spiritual journey.
Men's Faith Sharing Group	Limited	2nd Monday of the month, 10:30 a.m., Zoom	Pastor Mantu Joshi, mjoshi@srvumc.org , Fred Toney	Reading and discussing the Lenten selection, <i>Good Enough</i> .
Peet's Coffee "Good Enough" (drop in)	Yes, emphatically	Sundays, 3/6/22 through 4/10/22, 11 a.m. to noon	Pastor Mantu Joshi, mjoshi@srvumc.org	For anyone who wants to chat, including your neighbors and friends; will reflect on Lenten reading.
Women of Wisdom	Yes	Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Zoom	Merilyn Milam, m_k_milam@earthlink.net	Switching to weekly meetings for Lent, beginning March 2.

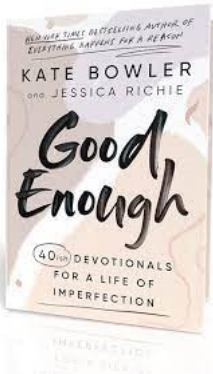


Spiritual Growth

Let us join together for the Ash Wednesday worship service, Wednesday, March 2, at 7 p.m., online and in person.

Lenten Devotional Reading

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. This is a time to draw close to God and let that “leave its mark” upon us. As we gather, online and in person, we embark on a faith journey that acknowledges perfection is impossible. Transformation isn’t. Our devotional book for Lent is *Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. You can order the book from [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) or support a local bookstore.



Our worship services will focus on a few devotionals each week, and we suggest reading the devotional in the order below.

Selections for the Days After Ash Wednesday

“Perfectionism is impossible. Transformation isn’t.”

- Regula
- Give Up Already
- When Good Things Become Burdens

Selections for the First Week of Lent

“Ordinary lives can be holy.”

- Shiny Things
- Happy Enough
- Building a Good Day
- No Reason Whatsoever
- Small Things, Great Love
- Mediocrity for the Win

Selections for the Second Week of Lent

“So much is out of our control.”

- Asleep on the Job
- Bottling Magic
- The Tragedy Olympics
- Gondola Prayers
- Being Honest About Disappointment
- The In-Between

Selections for the Third Week of Lent

“Lots of things can be medicine.”

- Buoyed by the Absurd
- Kindness Boomerangs
- When You Are Exhausted
- 2AM/2PM
- Hopping off the Treadmill
- Too Few Sparrows



Spiritual Growth

Selections for the Fourth Week of Lent

"We often believe we are the problem."

- Needing Rules at All
- For the Exiles
- The Bad Thing
- Becoming Real
- To My Body
- Refuge

Selections for the Fifth Week of Lent

"We are fragile."

- Right After It's Over
- Hello, Goodbye
- Loving What Is
- The Burden of Love
- The Reality-Show Gospel
- Bright Hope

Selections for the Days of Holy Week

"You are a group project."

- The Foundation
- Say Potato
- The Cost of Caring
- When Words Fail

Especially for Maundy Thursday

"We are blessed, regardless."

- #Blessed

Especially for Good Friday

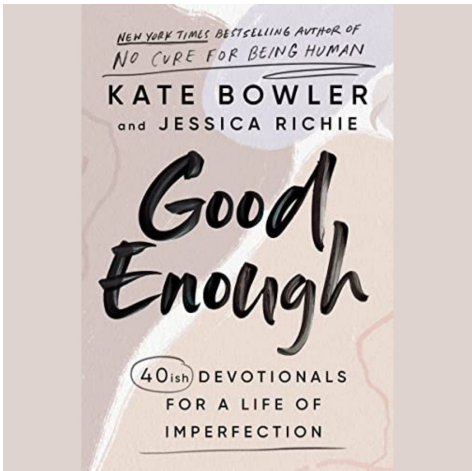
"Even today, God is here and somehow, that is good enough."

- Mourning a Future Self

Especially for Easter Sunday

"A Good Enough Faith"

- A Good Gardener





Spiritual Growth

Great Decisions

Begins April 24, 10:30 a.m.

Zoom

What are the great global policy decisions facing the U.S., and how should Christians respond? This series of eight weekly discussions on critical global issues on Zoom uses a guide prepared by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA). This program is part of an annual, nationwide program, whereby groups of concerned citizens throughout the U.S. will discuss why the issues are important and why we should be concerned.



The series will be facilitated by Lyn Arscott. A twenty-minute video prepared by the FPA will be shown on each topic followed by a facilitated discussion. The discussion series guidebooks are available from the FPA website for \$32 plus postage.

If you are a regular member of Dave Coomb’s or Lucinda Huffaker’s Sunday school classes, Lyn has your email and will send the link and briefing notes every week. If you are not on that list, email lynarscott@comcast.net to be placed on the list. The first two topics are:

Sunday, April 24: Outer Space

The launch of Sputnik 1 in October 1957 marked the beginning of the space era and of the Space Race between the United States and the Soviet Union. In the 21st century, there are many more participants in space, including countries such as India and China, and commercial companies such as SpaceX. How will the United States fare in a crowded outer space? *By Eric Berge*

Sunday, May 1: Climate Change

The ideological divide in the United States on the subject of climate change has impeded progress in curbing greenhouse emissions. But extreme weather events at both ends of the thermometer have focused attention on the consequences of inaction. What role will the United States play in future negotiations on climate? *By Ron Bee*

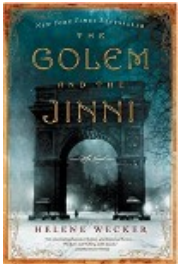
SRVUMC Afternoon Book Group

March 21, 1 p.m.

Zoom or Wesley Center, Rm. 202 (TBD)

The Golem and the Jinni by Helene Wecker, discussion led by Theresa Stroin.

(April selection: *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman)





Spiritual Growth

UMC Summer Camps!

Click [here](#) for the California-Nevada Conference plans for youth to get back to camp this summer. The plan is for in-person gathering with masks and safety protocols, with adjustments as needed made sometime in May. Start thinking about your summer camp plans or explore more youth opportunities at <https://www.calnevypm.org/>.

- Adult and Family Camp—June 12-18, 2022
- Japanese-American Camps
 - Jr. High Camp—June 26-July 1, 2022
 - Asian Camp—July 24-30, 2022
- Fijian Youth Camp—July 4-8, 2022
- Toyon Camp—July 9-15, 2022
- Shasta Family Camp—July 16-22, 2022
- Camp Lodestar—July 17-23, 2022
- Korean Youth Camp—Date TBD



CAMPING & YOUNG PEOPLE'S
MINISTRIES
CALIFORNIA-NEVADA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parenting WORKSHOP

How to help you help your kids!

Saturday, March 12, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Wesley Center

How can parents help kids with stress, anxiety and other day-to-day difficulties? The Discovery Counseling Center of the San Ramon Valley will form a panel covering TK through grade 12, including their staff from the local elementary, middle and high school campuses. **RSVP to Laura Roy at lroy@srvumc.org. Childcare provided only by RSVP.**

P.S. Laura is looking for a few high school students to help with child care. If your student would be interested, then please contact Laura.



Out Into the World



Hi Kim,

We wanted to thank you for your generous giving in 2021 supporting our work in wildfire response and recovery. Your total deductible amount is \$7,970.00.

Date: 9/10/2021

Amount: \$7970.00

Fund: Paradise

Every act of your generosity helps us further our mission. In fact, your gift has helped rebuild homes in Paradise, open our project in Happy Camp and provide supplies to fire evacuees across California this year.

Because we are a registered 501(c)3 organization, your donation is completely tax deductible. Please keep this for your tax records to claim your deduction.

Again, we thank you for rebuilding homes and restoring lives.

Thank you,

Kevin Cox, CEO and Founder

Hope Crisis Response Network, Inc.

Big Boys: A Men's Small Group

Tuesdays, 7 to 9 p.m.

In-person meetings

How about increasing your circle of male friends? The Big Boys small group is that group of guys.

We meet weekly to share the events of our lives, discuss Sunday's sermon, and read a book together that speaks to the interests of the spiritual male.

Contact Bill VanBezey at vanboneye@comcast.net if this sounds like something that matches your interests.





Out Into the World



New Date!

April 30, 2022

Blackhawk Museum, Danville

This spring, Hope Solutions' annual Ruby Slippers gala moves outdoors! This familiar event benefits local homeless families and individuals. To protect the safety of guests and staff, Hope Solutions has postponed its big event.

New this year: Enjoy signature cocktails (and mocktails), amazing silent auction packages, wine pull, and photo booth in the Blackhawk Museum plaza, along with a short program and dinner in the museum with masks on.

The COVID-19 protocols:

- Be prepared to provide proof of vaccination and booster, plus proof of negative COVID-19 test taken within 24 hours of the event (lab or home test accepted).
- Masks will be required at all times, unless eating or drinking.

Women of Wisdom

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to Noon
Zoom

We invite woman of all ages to join us in the Lenten study, *Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler. We would love to have some new voices in our group!





Out Into the World

From Pain To Purpose

UPDATE: The Miles Hall Lifeline Act: AB 988 Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Hotline

In June of 2021 we reported on the good work being done by the Miles Hall Foundation, especially as it relates to The Miles Hall Lifeline Act: AB 988 Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Hotline, now in the California Senate. Even though the California Assembly passed this (70 ‘yea’ 0 ‘nea’), it is not a done deal in the Senate. That is why we need your help. We hope you’ll share this with family and friends throughout California. This critical legislation will protect all of our families.

You can read about AB988 at <https://www.justiceformileshall.org/ab-988>. In a nutshell, it calls for a new three-digit phone number, 9-8-8, for suicide prevention and immediate, localized emergency response for individuals in mental health crisis by trained mental health professionals and more. We hope you will use the easy-to-follow, one-page [Action Items for AB 988](#) to help get the word out to our legislators and to Governor Newsom. Tell them how important this legislation is for our families. Mental illness knows no race or gender.

Who Was Miles Hall?

Miles Hall was a 23-year-old Black man with mental health issues who lived with his family in Walnut Creek. On June 2, 2019, he was in the midst of a schizophrenic mental health crisis when his Walnut Creek family called the only source of help available: 911. Despite having information about Miles’ condition, officers resorted to lethal force, and he was shot and killed within a minute of their arrival. We know too well that Miles’ story is not isolated. People of color are especially vulnerable when the only means of getting help for them is to call law enforcement. The outcomes are often tragic. Miles would have been 26 years old February 15, 2022. He deserved to live.

More Like Miles

San Ramon Police Chief Craig Shields opened an April 21, 2021, Mental Health Awareness webinar with this alarming information: “In 2020, in the City of San Ramon, we saw an 80% increase in Welfare and Institution Code 5150 commitments. These individuals were determined to be a danger to themselves or a danger to others or were considered gravely disabled. Most concerning, 36% of these were juveniles.”

“In 2020, in the City of San Ramon, we saw an 80% increase in Welfare and Institution Code 5150 commitments...Most concerning, 36% of these were juveniles.”
—Craig Shields, San Ramon Chief of Police



Out Into the World

We already know that life for teens in this valley can be difficult—disengagement, peer pressure, stress-related illness, drugs, anxiety, depression—all risk factors for youth suicide. And the uncertainty of the past two years has only made it worse. The good news: It has been shown that improving access to mental health resources for families and communities can help prevent youth suicide. AB988 is that help. Every city and town in our valley (and beyond) has committed its name to the AB 988 Supporter List. See <https://www.justiceformileshall.org/ab-988> for more about how important the legislation is. Please help us get the word out. Thank you, Dialogue for Change

Acton Items for AB 988

Links So You Can Help

1. Send a message to the State Legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom by [signing the petition](#).
2. Call or contact your state senator. The state assembly passed AB988 on June 2, 2021, so the focus is on the senate. Find your local representatives [here](#).
3. Submit a letter of support through the California legislature [position letter portal](#). It is easy to register and use!

Learn more about how to use the position letter portal or search for your local political representatives on the [Dialogue for Change](#) page of SRVUMC's website. The page includes links for more Pain to Purpose reading, more information about the action items above, and more Dialogue for Change resources.

Virtual Early Response Team Training (ERT)

March 19 and 22, 1 to 5 p.m.

Zoom

The Mission of an Early Response Team (ERT) is to provide a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of a disaster. The team is not a “first response” group; nor is it a recovery, rebuild or repair team. It is assigned various tasks, usually relating to safety, mitigation of further damage to property, and cleanup tasks to assist the homeowner in preparation for rebuild. Training as an ERT volunteer requires two sessions, each four hours long. Cost for both sessions is \$15 per person, an additional \$41 for Safe Gatherings online background check and Abuse Prevention Training (pay through Safe Gatherings website). Instructor is Leslie Carmichael. Training includes ERT training manual, ID badge, lanyard and t-shirt. [Click here to register](#) or [here to read the flyer](#).





Out Into the World



(February content from the conference, below, has been lightly edited for format and style. Don't wait for our newsletter: You can visit <https://www.cnumc.org/news> for more conference information anytime. – Editor)

Dear Friends in Faith,
Greetings on behalf of your Conference Committee on Mission Service!
We hope your year is off to a good start.

One of our conference traditions is to provide assistance to churches in our conference who might need help with maintenance or repairs. This assistance comes in the form of volunteer teams to do work that could not be addressed by the local church. We are receptive to hearing from you if your church might be interested in a team in 2022. Just fill out this project request form to start the ball rolling <https://www.cnumc.org/Local-Church-Mission-Projects>.

Second, attached [to the original document] is the February issue of *The Mission Connection*, the newsletter of our Conference United Methodist Volunteers in Mission—UMVIM Program. It highlights the new and improved UMVIM Section of the Conference website, virtual missions to Laos and Hong Kong in February, and the recent presentation on mission opportunities for 2022. This month's newsletter can be found at [The Mission Connection](#).

And lastly, we would like to highlight our longstanding, twenty-year commitment to mission work in Angola. Led by St. Mark's UMC in Sacramento, the 2022 goal is fund a solar-powered irrigation system at the demonstration farm and increase support for the ongoing agricultural priorities. See this article for more details. <https://www.cnumc.org/vim-details/an-opportunity-to-support-our-mission-in-angola-15856670>.

We share Conference mission and outreach opportunities each month. If you have a story you want to highlight, just send an article and photos to me, Justin at justincryu@gmail.com or to Shari Sandoval at sharis@calnevumc.org.

Living in Hope,
Justin Ryu
On behalf of the California-Nevada Mission Service Committee



Communion

What Is UMCOR?

UMCOR stands for United Methodist Committee on Relief and will be the focal point of a Special Sunday Service in March. This year, the official date for UMCOR Sunday is March 27, 2022. *We will celebrate it on our usual Communion Sunday, March 6.*



When watching disaster unfold around the globe, many of us feel the call to help but are at a loss as to what we can actually do. UMCOR Sunday is the day for congregations around the globe to help.

In 1940, Bishop Herbert Welch founded The Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief (MOR) to address the displacement of populations during World War II. Over more than a decade, the humanitarian arm of the United Methodist Church resettled and assisted refugees in more than five different countries. Over time, its scope expanded to address hunger in Bangladesh and famine and drought in African nations like Ethiopia.

UMCOR Sunday was previously known as “One Great Hour of Sharing.” We still share with more than 80 countries worldwide.

Scope of UMCOR

Our members number among 12.5 million United Methodists in 136 countries who participate. This Sunday offering underwrites the UMCOR administrative costs so that all designated gifts for a particular project will go to those who need it most.

UMCOR’s stated mission is “to be a voice of conscience on behalf of the people called United Methodist...to alleviate human suffering and advance hope and healing.”

This transformative work is categorized into three areas:

- Humanitarian relief/disaster response
- Sustainable development
- Global health

UMCOR Sunday is one of six special Sundays the United Methodist calendar marks. Others include Human Relations Day (January), Native American Ministries Sunday (April), Peace With Justice Sunday (May), World Communion Sunday (October), and United Methodist Student Day (November).

UMCOR Last Year

During a year when one disaster seemed to follow another, UMCOR’s long experience in training and support for responders in the U.S. and globally has allowed massive mobilization. Last year, UMCOR Special Sunday offerings totaled \$1,921,619 according to www.resourceumc.org in support of “cost of doing business” so gifts for a specific UMCOR project go entirely toward that project.



The beginning of the year has definitely thrown us some curveballs! We navigated the surge in COVID cases to balance our young students' health at school while also honoring our consistent learning program. We know that all of our families count on sending their children to preschool on their scheduled days. When monitoring and quarantine timelines have disrupted that schedule, our teachers have stepped up, providing materials and Zoom sessions for at-home learning opportunities. We know that these measures don't make up for the in-person time, but we have also done our best to strike a balance between safety and learning. We so appreciate our family community's flexibility and understanding!

As we move into March and look forward to warmer weather, we are also hoping for a calm spring at preschool. We are excited to get our gardens up and running in our beautiful garden beds. We also anticipate seeing our children enjoy their brand-new, and expertly designed mud kitchen. The updated mud kitchen is designed and installed by another talented Eagle Scout, Ben Dowler. Every time I see children using an area that has been so thoughtfully planned just for us, I am reminded how blessed we are by the kindness and generosity of others in our community.

Much like spring brings new beginnings, it also brings new beginnings for our school. This is the time when we start preparing for what summer and the next school year will bring. While we are planning ahead, we also embrace the excitement that the rest of this school year has in store, and we hope that spring brings you renewed hope and joy as well!



Our Mistake!

Last month, we mistakenly referred to the Lunar New Year as "Chinese New Year." As was quite rightly pointed out, many people of other cultures, including Vietnamese and Korean people, celebrate the Lunar New Year.

Thanks for spotting this inaccuracy, and please report errors when you see them! –Editor



Family Ministry

Calendar

Lent Kids' Kindness Club, Sundays, March 6 through April 3, 10 to 11 a.m., In person or Zoom —We usually give up something for Lent. What if we give up some time to give back instead? Each week, we will have a project to give back to our community. (Think “Winter Nights,” Meals on Wheels, Church seniors, a long-term care facility)

Third Grade Bible Celebration—March 27, 10 a.m. Wesley or Courtyard. Traditional presentation of Bibles, gifts from the congregation to the third graders as a starting point for their deeper journey of faith with God.

Save the date: Vacation Bible School, July 25 through 29, age 3 years (potty trained) through grade 5, 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Sunday School

Join us for in-person Sunday school! Sundays, 9 a.m. TK through fifth grade will meet in Wesley Hall. Tot Spot will depend on staffing availability.

Online Sunday School will **NOT** meet for the fourth week of March. We will be having Kids Kindness Club on site from 10 to 11 a.m., courtyard, weather permitting. We will try to Zoom that at the same time.

March Focus

Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone.

Week One

Building the Tabernacle: Exodus 25:8-9; 28:1, 3; 31:1-11; 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43

God wants us to work together.

Week Two

Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites: Exodus 17:8-13

Work together to help someone succeed.

Week Three

Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Walk / Four Friends: Luke 5:17-26

Work together to help someone in need.

Week Four

Early Church Works Together / Believers Share Their Lives Together: Acts 2:42-47

Make a habit of working together.

“Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.”

—Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIRV



Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Bart Jacobi | 17 Rebecca Bernstein |
| 2 Al Tiedemann | 18 Grace Willman |
| 3 Debra Carter | 19 Jim Burk |
| 4 Steve Roath | Gavin Helms |
| Mike Scalzi | Lori Pavel |
| Cole Donaldson | 20 Bill Van Bezey |
| 6 Ed Keller | 22 Joan Arscott |
| 7 Cindy Rudow | Liz Field |
| 9 Terry Sherman | Sandra Willman |
| Paige Steffy | 23 Karen Scalzi |
| Roger Ten Elshof | 24 Katie Buckley |
| 11 Carrie Doyle | Judy Slinger |
| Karen Sanson | 25 Marianne Templeton |
| 13 Ellen Kocins | 27 Dianne Anderson |
| 15 Betty Jo Bennett (93) | Elizabeth Beck McDaniel |
| Cathy Colman | 29 Katie Hawk |
| Brian Doyle | 30 Corin Drake |
| Gene Ives | Sam Hoff |
| Abby Lang | Kevin Peters |
| 16 Corinne Pavel | 31 Candice Newburn |
| Susan Stevenson | Greg Warwick |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5 Kirsten & Langley Choy | 22 JoAnne & Jess Erickson (65) |
| 6 Amy & John Riedel | Erin & Rich Lowther |
| 8 Cindy & Tony Leonard | 25 Sherry & Sanjiv More' |
| Andrea Bourgeois McWilliams & Dave | 26 Dianne & Roger Ehlers |
| McWilliams | 27 Darrelyn & John Orr |
| Lori & John Pavel | 29 Marilyn & Berry Scott (64) |
| Susie & Peter Ruotsi (53) | |



Among Ourselves

Time for New Beginnings!

We Thank Marilyn Clarke for Her Dedicated Service

This month we say thank you to Marilyn Clarke, who retired from her post as facilities purchasing manager for SRVUMC at the beginning of 2022. She was already a member of the church when a friend suggested she apply for the position. Marilyn worked for the church for twenty years, originally hired as “facility manager.” She booked meetings, managed meeting space and directed custodial operations. Over time, her responsibilities expanded to include ordering supplies for the church campus and negotiating contracts with vendors for services like phone and copy machine maintenance. Under Jeff Lang’s guidance, she also purchased IT and AV equipment.



During her tenure at SRVUMC, Marilyn says she is probably most proud of her role with the many building projects over the years, including unconventional tasks like scheduling a meeting in a tent. The church campus is a locus of activity, so keeping things running during the upheaval caused by construction requires effort and organization.

Before taking her position for SRVUMC, she worked in bookkeeping and in sales. She also assisted her father in his photo lab for fifteen years, serving the entertainment and publishing industry in Southern California.

“I was brought up very comfortable with the motion picture industry and read Variety with my coffee every morning,” Marilyn said. She went on to say that she met many Hollywood stars and studio executives back then. “I do miss those days.”

Marilyn and George Clarke have three children, all in California. Her oldest daughter lives in Dublin, so she delights in talking about her redheaded 17-year-old grandson. Her youngest daughter lives in Southern California, near the site of her father’s photo lab. Marilyn and the family all travel Hwy. 5 frequently to visit.

Marilyn is focusing now on the family and their home, with hope for travel.

“Time for new beginnings!” she says.



Among Ourselves

Health Concerns

Shana Carroll
Avi Joshi

Lonnie Van Duinen

Continued Prayers For

All those who live with long-term illness, unemployment, life decisions, and sickness in their families, Bob Bailey, Bob De Chene, Connie Erickson, Felicia Hillard, Kay Jones, Joan Lee, Ann Schroeder.

In Celebration of the Life

On March 5, at 1 p.m., friends and family will gather to remember Paige Darnley Williams. Masks required.

Loved ones of Sandy Clark will honor her life in a memorial service on April 23.

SRVUMC

902 Danville Blvd • Alamo, CA 94507

Office Hours: 9 a.m.-12, 1-4:30 p.m.

Phone (925) 837-5243 • Fax (925) 837-7263 • www.srvumc.org

Ministers EVERYONE • Lead Pastor Kim Risedorph (ext. 107) • Associate Pastor Mantu Joshi (ext. 108)

Director of Family Ministries

Laura Roy (ext. 106)

Preschool Director

Katelyn Self (ext. 113)

Office/HR Manager

Soledad Cuenco (ext 104)

Accountant

Priya Gupta

Office Administrator

Patsy Kyles

Music Director

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Organist

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Messenger Editor

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Matt Clawson