



The Pine Tree

The Congregational Church of San Mateo
United Church of Christ

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Vol. 58

Issue #11 • June 28-July 26, 2009

Sensational Summer Celebrations

- Sunday, June 28 Nathan Daniels, preacher
- Sunday, July 5 Sermon: *I Heard God Speak*, Jerri Handy
- Sunday, July 12 Sermon: *A Dance to Die For*, Steve Naylor
- Sunday, July 19 Sermon: *Life Changing Moments*, Tuesday Home Circle & Friends leading worship
Church Picnic at Coyote Point
- Sunday, July 26 Sermon: *Let the Club Do the Work*, Golf Group leading worship

AUGUST: SERMON SERIES: FOUR MORE AGREEMENTS

- Sunday, Aug. 2 The Fifth Agreement: Penny Nixon
- Sunday, Aug. 9 The Sixth Agreement: Penny Nixon
- Weekdays, Aug. 10-14, Vacation Bible School**
- Sunday, Aug. 16 The Seventh Agreement: Rev. Roland Stringfellow
New Members Class after worship
- Saturday, Aug. 22 **Teachers Meeting**
- Sunday, Aug. 23 Eighth Agreement: Penny Nixon
- Saturday, Aug. 29 **Church Retreat** w/Rabbi Jhos Singer
- Sunday, Aug. 30 Sermon: *The Potential for Intimacy*, Part 1, Steve Naylor preaching
- Sunday, Sept. 6 Sermon: *The Potential for Intimacy*, Part 2 Steve Naylor preaching

All-Church Picnic on July 19

Come to the church picnic after the service on July 19 at **Coyote Point Park** at *Eucalyptus* 3 area. Relaxing in the sun, play volleyball or horseshoes (bring your equipment), BBQ and watch the kids on the playground. We have a handicapped accessible site next to the marina with seating for 150 people. BBQed chicken and hot dogs will be supplied while you bring side dishes. If your last name starts with A-G bring salads/fruit, H-M bring side dishes and munchies,

N-Z bring a sweet treat. Please supply your own drinks. There is a car entry fee of \$5, so car pooling is encouraged.



The 5th and 6th grade class worked together and tied this quilt. They did a great job being the hands of God!

2010 Haiti mission

A Mission Trip to Haiti in January 2010
By Jerri Handy, clergy intern

I am excited and grateful to be continuing to serve CCSM during the 2009/2010 school year for Advanced Field Education. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your welcome and continued support! This next year, I will be helping invite and encourage new members and friends into the life of our church. What an exciting time this is for our church with so many new faces!

Global Missions continue to be of great interest to me. I attended a conference in Huston, TX, on June 5 to 7, hosted by Global Ministries for the Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ. The culmination of this event was being commissioned as a Ministry and Mission Interpreter for the Christian Church (DOC) and the UCC.

During my second mission trip to Haiti in June 2007, I addressed CONASPEH (Council National Spiritual Eglesias deHaiti), their National Council of Churches. The picture on page 4 is from that trip, just moments before the ordination ceremony for 109 men and one woman. Felix Ortiz, Latin America and Caribbean Area Executive Director, and I are standing with that one amazing woman. It was such a heartwarming moment to be with these men and the woman as they were anointed with oil and prayed over in their mass ordination.

I shared with CONASPEH the five basic skills needed to help people in traumatic situations (Emotional First Aid). As a result of that presentation, CONASPEH has asked me to develop a seminary class so that all pastors can be trained in Emotional First Aid.

CCSM was introduced to Emotional First Aid through our training event in April 2009

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Youth & Family News

Summer Church School begins

After the children's moment, all the children will come to Kloss Hall for stories and song. Then we will divide the children for creative activities. Children second grade and younger will go to the 1-2 grade classroom. Youth in the 3rd grade and older will stay in Kloss Hall.

On Sunday, June 28th, we will begin our summer study of the Creation Story. Here are the lesson themes:

- Sunday June 28** In the Beginning was the great Void
Sunday, July 5 God created two great lights, Sun and Moon
Sunday, July 12 God created the Seas, the great waters.
Sunday, July 19 God created the Dry Land—mountains, hills and valleys.
Sunday, July 26 God created living plants.

Each class will create a large poster for the creation theme, and each child will design their own creation book. By the end of the summer, the students will be able to tell you the whole creation story. Please talk to Betsy Woodward or Shirley McKinnie if you can volunteer to teach one Sunday this summer.

August 10-14, Vacation Bible School

Please register your child now! Our theme this year is **God's Green Earth**. This wonderful week will be filled with art, music, science, Bible stories and just plain fun for three and a half hours a day. We will connect Bible stories with ways of being more ecological in our daily lives. VBS applications are available in the church office, the church hallway and the Christian Education Building. Time: 9:00-12:30 p.m. Age: 3 through 11 years Cost: \$75 with scholarships available. Teachers: Julie Berk, Liz Henton, Shirley McKinnie, Steve Naylor, Penny Nixon, Ginger Slonaker, and Betsy Woodward.

Samaritan House

Volunteer opportunity: Samaritan House is opening *Kid's Closet*, a children and teens clothing store, in San Mateo. **Volunteers are needed to help with set up, scheduling, sorting clothing and assisting in the store.** Enjoy working with a friendly group of volunteers. Contact: Michele Canning, 341-4081 ext 33, michele@samaritanhouse.com.

Summer Music at CCSM

By Lynnelle Bilsey

Are you interested in stretching your musical muscles? Have you been inspired to utilize your spiritual gifts through musical pursuits. If yes, then CCSM's summer music program is the place for you. I am looking for small ensembles, soloists and singers for a gospel choral group that would like to help lead our Sunday summer music program. The summer music program begins on **Sunday, June 21 and runs through Sunday, August 30**. If you are interested in participating, we'd love to have you. All are welcome! **Rehearsals for the Gospel group** will start on **Wednesday, July 15 from 7:30 -8:30 p.m.** in the choir room. This is totally on a drop-in basis. If you can attend at least two rehearsals for each Sunday piece, that is great. I will have the schedule of dates with songs and sermons available shortly. If you are interested in participating this summer, please contact Lynnelle Bilsey at ltbmusings@att.net or phone at 415 271-0051.

Come lift up your spirit, your heart and your voice and make a joyful noise!

Summer Beginning Bells

Yes, it's that time again. Bells are a blast—just ask any member of the Carillon Ringers at CCSM. If you want to stretch your arms and do some musical aerobics, bells are for you. The beginning bells group is specifically geared toward folks who have never rung a bell before. Some musical knowledge is helpful, but not required. Rehearsals will be held on **Thursdays from 7-7:45 p.m. beginning July 23 until August 28**. If you are interested in participating this summer, please contact Lynnelle Bilsey at ltbmusings@att.net or phone at 415 271-0051.

Come learn the fun that being a "Ding-a-Ling" can be!

Senior High's Outreach Trip

By Steve Naylor

Our senior high youth had a successful mission trip. We worked at the Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministry Center with adults and East Asian children especially from Laos. The theme for the week was hope. In the evenings, we taught approximately sixty students Bible stories about hope and gave them an experience of hope that brought them out of their everyday lives and into a world where they could see teenagers who had been part of the same program doing incredible things with their lives. In the mornings, the adults were given classes in citizenship and language skills. With friendship and fellowship, we taught and in turn received and learned from our experience.



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, Sept. 19, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Worship Workshop Live! with Marcia McFee

Affinity Groups

Blanketeers meeting on Saturday, **August 8, in the Buckham Room from 1:00-4:00 p.m.** Please bring your Churn Dash squares, and we will put our quilt together. Call Linda Skromme for details 578-8655. All are welcome!

Monday, Sept 28, is the next date for the **Monday Night Book Group**. Our new book is **Shakespeare's Wife** by Germaine Greer, an intriguing look at Ann Hathaway. It comes out in paperback August 2, so look for a copy around that time. We invite you to join us in September! If you wish to be included in our email list, please email Susan Stoehr, s_stoehr@hotmail.com.

Sore Muscles and Smiling Faces

On a beautiful June morning, 16 volunteers from CCSM gathered on a construction site at Whitney Young Circle in the Bayview area of San Francisco. They were there to participate in the annual *Building on Faith* day sponsored by Habitat for Humanity, Greater Bay Area. Volunteers spent eight hours laboring on projects such as roofing, exterior painting, applying siding and hauling heavy supplies. All survived and many showed up in church the following morning with a few sore muscles but with smiles on their faces. It was a rewarding and fun day for all involved. Thanks to all who volunteered their time.



Joys & Concerns

Congratulations

Sandy Blodgett is beginning to feel good again after finishing all her cancer treatments. Her biggest joys now are watching daughter, **Katie**, in the Miss Arizona Scholarship Pageant last week and watching **Sarah** prepare to head to New York in the fall to take her shot at Broadway! Katie's platform was *The Fight Against Hunger*. After the Pageant, **Katie** will be joining Teach for America right here in the Bay Area.

Jerri Handy has passed two milestones. She has been granted her ministerial license for another year, and she has been commissioned as a Interpreter for Disciples of Christ and the UCC as well.

Prayers of Comfort

Austin Mader-Clark's Aunt Dee, Dorothy Rumsfeld Frye, passed away on June 3, 2009. Our prayers go out to her family and especially Austin's Uncle Smoky. Cards to 222 Sylvan Avenue, San Mateo, 94403.

Kay Harris' mother, Alice Powell, passed away on June 23, 2009 in Laguna Woods, CA. Our prayers are with Kay and Mike, Alice and her family. Cards of comfort to 801 Guildford Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94402.

Tommy Bridgeman, Stan Higgs' friend, died on June 23. Our prayers to Tommy's family and Stan.

Prayers of Healing

Jay Cornwall, was in Peninsula Hospital. He's healing at home now. Cards to 931 Edinburgh, San Mateo, 94402.

Doug Henton's mother, Doris Henton, is undergoing tests on her heart. Please keep her in your prayers. (1752 Parrott Drive, San Mateo CA 94402)

Marj Griffin is glad to be home from Peninsula Hospital. Cheery cards for recovery may be sent to 174 Briar Lane., SM, 94403.

Edith Alvarenga had a relapse of her pneumonia and is at home recovering. We send prayers of healing to her at 236 Anita Road #5, Burlingame, 94010.

We surround **Lynnelle Bilsey** with prayers for healing as she continues her chemo treatments.

Jon Karesh is finally home from the hospital. Our prayers continue to surround him. He

would love calls and visits during the next two weeks at home. Call for directions to his condo 572-2621.

Shaun O'Brien is back at work after his surgery last month. We're so glad he is improving!

Pearly Master's brother, Raymond is fighting cancer and related problems, but he is doing better. Pearly and the whole family traveled to be with him. Our prayers surround them as they gather to support him.

Don Loomis is back healing at Silverado Senior Living from Peninsula Hospital. Visits would be welcome at 1301 Ralston Ave, Belmont 94002.

Don turns 100 on July 17.

Carl and Evelyn Loschenkohl need our prayers. Evelyn struggles with healing her legs, and Carl needs care as well. Cards are welcome at 1899 Edinburgh Street, San Mateo, 94403.

Celeste and her family need our prayers.

Times of Transition

Marilyn Manion, who turned a chipper 93 on June 8, has moved into The San Carlos Elms. Her phone number stays the same. The Elms, 707 Elm Street #320, San Carlos, CA 94070.

Marjorie Thompson is moving in early July to Santa Rosa. Her new address will be: Spring Lake Village, 5555 Montgomery Drive #51, Santa Rosa, 95409.

Note:

Jerri Handy will coordinate congregational care in July while **Lani** is on vacation. Contact Jerri at 503 421-5439 or intern@ccsm-ucc.org.

Summer Speaker Series 2009

July 12, *Innovative Housing Solutions*, Bruce Hamilton

For 37 years, HIP Housing has helped 1,000+ people in San Mateo County find a decent, affordable place to live. Bruce will discuss HIP's programs and how the lack of affordable housing has a negative impact on the quality of life for everyone. Bruce Hamilton's career has combined law, politics and nonprofit management. He has served with the Peace Corps in Ethiopia, as a County Supervisor, and as Executive Director for several non-profits.

July 19, *Jump Start Your Job Search*, Margie Mader-Clark

Deep in the hunt for a new job? Mildly disgruntled but standing pat in this economy? Or happily employed but always looking? Sharpen your resume and job search skills, learn cool resume tricks, how to market yourself in this new wired world, and put your best professional self forward. Margie Mader-Clark is an Executive Coach and Human Resources consultant with over 20 years experience. She has worked for large companies, startups and high fliers, focusing on maximizing the skills and passions of the workforce.

July 26, *Intellectual Property Wars*, Margreth Barrett

The US and others have waged an extensive campaign to increase protection for patented, copyrighted, and trademarked property worldwide, but less developed nations resist. Learn about the differing perspectives on distribution of AIDS medications, biopiracy, protecting cultural arts and folklore and more. Margreth Barrett is a Professor of Law at the University of California's Hastings College of Law. She teaches a range of classes in the intellectual property field and has published several books on this topic.

August 2, *Poverty, Inequality and Faith*, Lauren Speeth

Beyond protests and counter-protests to lasting, positive change. You will hear stories from The Elfenworks Foundation and a theological perspective for a lively, spiritual discussion. Please join us! Lauren Speeth, author and founding CEO of Elfenworks Foundation, currently serves with several non-profits. She also lectures and speaks concerning service learning; leadership ethics, fiduciary capitalism and enlightened self-interest; social entrepreneurship and conscienceware; and domestic poverty and activism.

August 9, *Healthcare in the 21st Century: a More Sustainable Future*, Rebecca Ruedy

US Healthcare as an "industry" produces a large "footprint." How do current practices impact human and planetary health? What areas cry most loudly for change and timely alteration? Can we have a "kinder, gentler and healthier healthcare system"? Come to listen, learn, and be engaged! Rebecca Ruedy, RN, MPH, is an educator, planner and community-needs assessor for health promotion and wellness. She has a life-long interest in environmental issues, and a passion for the "healthcare and sustainability" movement.

August 16, *From Fundy to Fun! A Journey*, Phil Holderbein

Abandon fundamentalist, literal ideas and move toward personal growth and intimacy with God. Draw nearer to relationship with a loving and accepting God and away from a dualistic, exclusive, judgmental and punishing God. Phil Holderbein was raised in a Christian family believing in the literal interpretation of scripture. Active in the church from a young age, he graduated from Bible College and has served the church all his adult life as an elder, teacher, and mentor.

2010 Haiti mission

Continued from page 1

with June Vining from the Trauma Intervention Program, INC. Emotional First Aid part 2 continues the work, leading individuals and families through the process of preparing for the daily disasters that happen in our lives.

Recently, I discovered a way to bring my passions for Emotional First Aid training and Global Ministries together. In planning for my continued work with CCSM, I asked Penny for permission to continue working on the seminary course in Emotional First Aid. Not only did she support this, Penny encouraged me to consider a mission trip with people from CCSM.

Toward that end, if you would be interested in traveling to Haiti and seeing the work being done there, mark your calendar! I am returning to Haiti with CONASPEH **January 15-22, 2010**. There is room for 3 or 4 more people to join our delegation for this spiritually engaging trip. More details will be available in the near future. If you are interested in this mission trip or have more questions please contact Jerri Handy, Clergy Intern, for more information: intern@ccsm-ucc.org or call the church office.



**UCC General Synod 27
Grand Rapids, Michigan
June 26-30, 2009**



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