

The Pine Tree

The Congregational Church of San Mateo
United Church of Christ

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Sunday, June 13, Join Us For CCSM's Annual Congregational Meeting & Luncheon

By Mike and Lee Mullery

Mark your calendars and join us for our Annual Spring Congregational Meeting and Luncheon on **Sunday, June 13 after worship**. Help us celebrate this exciting time in the life of CCSM!

We will elect incoming officers, and members who will join the church ministries. We will celebrate our past year's accomplishments and talk about our visions for the future. Come and get your Annual Report—a booklet that chronicles this past year's life at CCSM.

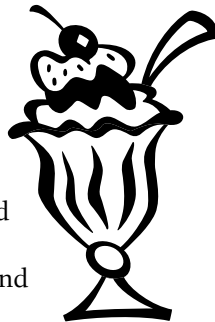
Come and enjoy the fellowship of your wonderful church community. Children's lunch and activities will be provided.

Annual Organ Concert & Ice Cream Social



Come join Angela Kraft Cross on **Sunday, June 6, at 4:00 p.m.** for this not-to-be-missed double-dip event of the year: Angela's 17th Annual Spring Organ Recital plus Ice Cream Sundaes. Beautiful music played by a gifted organist, the concert will feature works of Mendelssohn, Vierne, Schumann, and others, as

well as Angela's latest composition, *A Joyous Celebration*. As always the program will be followed by a Trudy Duncan scrumptious ice cream social with delectable ice cream toppings! Come, enjoy, and bring your friends!



Congregational Care at CCSM

By Lani Leydig

I get the Thank You cards. "I wish to thank my church family for your many expressions of comfort and love." "My family and I thank you all for your thoughtful card and the lovely Easter lily, so kindly delivered to my door." "Didn't we have fun?!" That last one was meant for me, but most of the other cards on my desk (23 at last count) are from thankful friends and members who want to thank all of *you* for the many ways you care for one another here at CCSM. My position as Care Coordinator gives me the joy of orchestrating this outreach we do for one another.

If you are new to CCSM, you might have noticed the *Joys and Concerns* in the bulletin and *Pine Tree*, often about people you don't yet know. Yet my guess is that you already smile with joy at seeing someone's 95th birthday there or at reading of a new baby in our church family. And you've felt the tug of compassion as you've read of prayer requests for members or friends facing illness or the death of a loved one. You are an important part of our big family. Soon you will recognize the names you are reading. Let me know when you have a prayer request or a joy to share.

At CCSM we have many organized ways that we reach out: notes written by the Noteworthy's, the Month of Sundays volunteers, phone calls made by the Caring Callers, visits to shut-ins by our Congregational Care Team, rides for members who can't get to church on their own, Easter lilies, Christmas Carols, poinsettias delivered with love, and prayers, meals, and support given during crisis by too many volunteers to count.

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Sunday Worship

- May 30** Rev. Valerie McEntee preaching, Memorial Day
- Monday, May 31, the church offices will be closed for Memorial Day.**
- June 6** Confirmation Sunday and Communion
Are you Afraid of the Light? Rev. Nixon preaching
- June 13** *The First Annual Report*, Rev. Nixon preaching
Annual Meeting and luncheon, Kloss Hall
- June 20** *An Unusual Suspect*, Rev. Nixon preaching
- June 27** *When Faith Comes Knocking At Your Door*, Rev. Nixon preaching

Youth & Family News

Sunday, June 6 Is Confirmation Sunday And Year-End Festivities For Christian Education

The day will begin with the Confirmation breakfast prepared by Marian Faber and her team. Our Confirmation students will be worship leaders and will be joining the church in a special ceremony during worship. Our church school teachers will also be recognized this Sunday. Then after church, stay around for ice cream and cake, plus a kid jumper and balloon makers on the lawn as we celebrate another great year of Christian Education.

Graduation Sunday, June 13th

All graduates from any program are encouraged to wear your regalia and be honored in the **Sunday, June 13th**, church service. We will have reserved rows for you to sit in. So whether you're graduating from high school, college, grad school, and even those that celebrate middle school graduation this will be a great day to mark the completion of a chapter in your life journey. We will also be honoring several high school seniors who are receiving scholarships from the church. Look forward to the next *Pine Tree* having a list of who is graduating and what their future plans are!

Summer Church School Begins

On **June 20th, Father's Day**, we begin our summer church school program— *The Life and Times of Jesus*. Children and youth will experience life as it was in Palestine 29. Look for lessons that include weaving, making foods of the times, creating oil lamps and more.

Summer Church School is different than regular Church School. We have two classes for children: younger children ages 3 years through 2nd grade meet in the Kindergarten classroom, and youth from 3rd grade to 8th grade meet upstairs in the Youth Room. Sometimes we will begin together and then split into two groups. Summer is a great time to try your hand at teaching, so please sign up in Kloss Hall or online to join our teaching teams!

Vacation Bible School is Coming August 9-13

It is a fun and spirit-filled week of Bible stories, music, art and energetic activities. We meet from **9:00-12:30 p.m.** including lunch. The cost is \$75! Your children ages 3-11 will love it! Our theme this year is *God's Love is Everywhere!* We will be linking our Bible studies, music and activities to the communities we support through outreach—Botswana, Haiti and Nepal. Ten children are already registered, please sign up **NOW**. VBS forms are now available in the office and on the CCSM website.

Mid High Summer

Sunday, June 6, time TBA, Mid High Movie Day: We will walk over to the downtown San Mateo Cinemark after worship.

Sunday, June 13, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Ice Cream Social: We'll end our church year with our tradition. We'll make our own sundaes (with lots of toppings!) and talk about the coming year.

Make sure to keep these dates in mind! If you have any questions or would like information, email Joliene (joliene.wade@gmail.com).

Senior High Summer

Tuesday Nights in the Remodeled Youth Room! We're remodeling the Youth Room to make it a more sacred and versatile space for the different groups that use it. So starting on Tuesday, June 8th we will be watching a movie on our new flat panel TV!

Summer Nights: Movies, Social Time, Prayer

Wednesdays: June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21, August 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room. (Please note that only the doors to the Christian Education Building will be open.)

International Summer Speaker Series

We are lining up an incredible International Summer Speakers Series during the adult education hour **July 11th–August 15th before Sunday worship services**. The programs will start at **9:30 a.m. and go to 10:15 a.m.**

The series will feature CCSM members who have a personal story to share about culture, politics, and travel. This six-week program will include presentations from Pearly Masters sharing what it was like growing up in Pakistan and Mike Armacost who will be featuring his recent travels and work in Afghanistan where he met with President Karzai.

Sizzling Seniors Speak Out!

Our summit for adult seniors was a great success. Thirty gathered to shared program ideas for day trips, educational mornings, book groups, Bible studies and relaxing get-togethers. We agreed that two events a month are enough. We will be communicating the details of the new programs through the *Pine Tree*, emails, phone calls and reminder postcards. We are also looking for seniors who would like to help coordinate some of the events. A survey with all the ideas generated will be mailed or emailed to seniors to determine which activities would have the most interest. If you were not able to attend our summit and want to add your thoughts, please talk to Lani Leydig or Betsy Woodward. Our first senior events will be offered in September.

2010 CCSM Scholarship Recipients

The ministry of Children, Youth and Families is pleased to announce the following Scholarship Recipients. Each recipient will receive a \$400 scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded during worship on **Sunday, June 13.**



Jane Hayashi and her family have been members of the church for about ten years. Jane has been active in church school, youth groups and more recently assisted in church school classes. Jane attends Aragon High School, in addition to academics, she has excelled at volleyball and other sports.

Jane will attend U.C. Santa Barbara where she plans to major in economics with an emphasis on accounting. Jane Hayashi is this year's *Macon Banks Memorial Scholarship* winner.

Congratulations, Jane!



Robert Mason and his family have been members of our church for six years. They had searched on the Internet for a church that was right for their family and found CCSM. Robert has been actively involved in church and participated in two outreach trips with the Senior High youth. Robert attends Hillsdale High School, where in addition to academics, swimming and water polo, he has been immersed in the Hillsdale mock trial team,

which recently competed at the national level. Robert is proud of having earned the Boy Scouts' Eagle Scout rank and his Eagle project was to re-landscape the south side of the CE Building.

Robert will attend Dominican University, majoring in political science or economics, and hopes to become a doctor or lawyer. Robert Mason will receive the *Norma Younger Scholarship*. Good luck, Robert!



Grant Adams, and his parents and grandparents have been members of the church for a long time. Grant has also been very active in church, in the youth groups and especially in choirs and musicals. Grant attends Woodside High School, where he has been involved in swimming and water polo. He has pursued his love of music while performing in many school plays.

Grant plans to attend the University of Colorado at Boulder. Grant Adams is the *Dorothy Bracamonte Memorial Scholarship* recipient. Keep singing, Grant!

Opening Doors Within Our Church Community

As members of the newly formed **CCSM-Success Team**, we are actively helping each other in our search for new jobs. Now that we have been thoroughly coached on resumes, approach letters and resume addendums, we are prepared to talk to employers in our respective fields of interest.

To find out our areas of interest and who we are, please take a look at the bulletin board marked **Opening Doors Within Our Church Community** in the loggia next time you are at church.

Please think about whom you know through business, neighbors, relatives, or acquaintances who may be active in our areas of interest or may know someone who is active in those areas.

All we are looking for is an introduction to someone who may be able to help or lead us in the right direction. You might call this our inward-outreach program!

JOBS • OPEN DOORS • JOBS

SAVE THE DATE:

All-Church Picnic, July 11

Instead of coffee hour, we will head straight to Central Park after church on July 11 for the All-Church Summer Picnic! It's a casual day at church so wear your picnic clothes for worship service. We have reserved seating for 180 at **Central Park**. We'll be right near the playground so kids can play close by. Get ready for a fun afternoon of food, fellowship, and games. CFE will supply a main dish; details will follow on potluck assignments!



The Interns Are Coming!

By Rev. Nixon

I am thrilled that this year we will be able to have two interns.

Greg and Bonnie will offer CCSM their gifts for the coming year. You'll learn more about them as time goes on, but I can tell you that they are two top-notch ministers-in-training. Here's a brief introduction from each of them.



Greg Davis

God has been so good to me. He has seen me through two degrees in music, a wonderful career in show business, as an owner of a coffee shop, and 12 wonderful years as Minister of Music and Worship at Community Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Now, having just finished my first year of seminary at PSR, the divine presence in my life is as evident as ever! Part of that evidence is in finding this wonderful church. Not only as a new member, but as a clergy intern for 2010-2011.

If I could sum up my feelings for worship, they would have to be wrapped around the word, *Passion*. I have a passion for worship. To be a part of a worshipping community that is constantly seeking out new ways to present the *good news* is a blessing! My trek to the United Church of Christ has been one that is indeed characterized by the campaign, *God is Still Speaking*. Let's just say that God has never stopped speaking to and leading me in diverse yet incredible ways. I grew up, like Rev. Penny, in the Baptist Church. I attended Oklahoma Baptist University where I studied Church Music. Now I land here, where finally my theology can match my practice and my gifts can be used and nurtured for the Kingdom of God.

I so look forward to working with our incredible staff in the coming year. Penny Nixon is such a gift to this city and to this church. I have never heard the *good news* preached with so much passion and love. I ask for your prayers as I become part of this team. I hope to get to know many of you and that as we work together in this journey that God will be pleased and that our lives will be blessed.



Bonnie Rambob

I am delighted and honored to have the opportunity to serve as one of CCSM's pastoral interns this summer through the upcoming school year. Upon completion of my first year of seminary at the Pacific School of Religion, I am even more convinced of the many ways a passionate progressive Christian voice offers the world great hope. I am thrilled to be able to learn from and work alongside a truly gifted

pastoral staff and all of the wonderful people that make CCSM such a vibrant, thriving church family.

I come to my call to ministry as the proud mom of two sons, Julian (16) and Nik (13); and partner to Raj Rambob, of nearly 18 years. Before entering seminary, I loved teaching elementary, middle and high school for fifteen years and I co-founded, along with Raj, the only homeless emergency sheltering program in El Dorado County. Raj continues this work as executive director of San Mateo County's Home and Hope, of which CCSM is a much-appreciated partner. I've found my background as a mother, educator, and homeless advocate to have a profound impact not only on my life, but also on my vision of ministry. These days when I am not writing papers, I love to read fiction and poetry, knit, play outside, hang out with my family and friends, and dream of all that is yet to be. I cannot wait to meet and learn of you.

Minister's Summer Schedule

The pastoral staff has arranged their summer schedule to be responsive to the needs of the congregation.

Penny will be at a conference the last week of June and then back east for family time the first week of July, but back in time for the church picnic. She will also take a few days in August for a friend's 50th birthday bash.

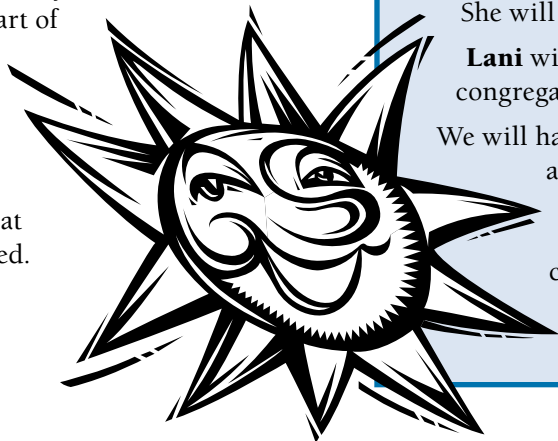
Steve will attend the UCC 2030s Clergy Network conference in Chicago June 1-3. He is on the planning board for the conference which is expecting over one hundred 20s and 30s UCC clergy! He'll be in Grand Rapids June 15-22 for a wedding and August 23-29 to San Diego for another friend's wedding.

Betsy will be on vacation July 1-10 at Crystal Lake, Michigan and July 24-31 in Hawaii. On August 16-18 she will go to Kansas City to celebrate her mom's 90th birthday.

Jerri will be in Indiana for a summer internship as Hospital Chaplain with St. Vincent Hospital and health care center. She will return on September 13, for Homecoming Sunday.

Lani will be around most of the summer to help keep our congregational needs updated and organized.

We will have at least one minister available and on duty at all times. **Bonnie Rambob** will start her internship in June, and she, as well as **David Cowell** and **Rev Janet Bower**, will be available for pastoral care and hospital visits in addition to the full-time pastoral staff.



Join an Affinity Groups

Blanketeers will be sewing on **Saturday, June 19 in the Buckham Room from 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

We will work on quilts to give our guests at the shelter CCSM will be hosting at the end of this month. Please bring your projects and sewing machines. Call Linda Skromme 578-8655 for more information.

Kaleidoscope Women's Group will gather on **Monday, June 7** for our annual restaurant meeting at **Macaroni Grill at 7:00 p.m.** (31 West Hillsdale Blvd, San Mateo) and enjoy a delightful dinner together. Please come and bring a friend along. RSVP Shirley at 349-3663 or snaildodie@yahoo.com

Book Exchange in Kloss Hall! Already many books have found new readers and have been returned to the bookshelf for you! You are welcome to bring books to share and borrow books to read. And, in honor of Melodie Lew's endeavor to take books to the children of Nepal, we are also collecting donations. So rather than buying a new book, borrow one and leave some money for the Nepal book fund.

Monday Night Book Group was so enthralled with Steig Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* that they have chosen the second book in the trilogy, *The Girl Who Played with Fire*, for their June selection. The book group will meet **Monday, June 28 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Fireplace Room**. This will be the last meeting until late September. If you love to read and share your thoughts with others, this is the group for you. All are welcome. To be included in the email blast, email Susan Stoehr. s_stoehr@hotmail.com

2030s Habitat for Humanity!

The 2030s CCSM Affinity Group gathered on May 8th for a full day of backbreaking labor on a Daly City Habitat for Humanity project. Our work including sanding walls or digging trenches for eight hours. We had 11 people from the 2030s group and were joined by another ten active members from CCSM. The Mission and Social Justice Ministry provided a great lunch and helped coordinate logistics. There was great energy and support around this event, and it gave a lot of people a chance to do work they had never done before. We look forward to having even more volunteers at the next Habitat build day!

Joys & Concerns

Every year at the Annual meeting the Memorials Ministry reads the names of CCSM members, family members, and friends who have passed away during the last year. A rose celebrating each life is placed in a vase. At the end of the meeting you are invited to take home the rose(s) that represent your loved one(s). **The Annual Meeting is after church on June 12th this year.**

Prayers of Joy and Gratitude

Evelyn Loschenkohl celebrated her 92nd birthday on May 17!

Lee Mullery is back from Virginia and healthy again. She and Mike have hosted their last executive committee meeting as co-moderators of CCSM and are looking forward to "retirement" come mid June.

Mark Meyers is really doing well with his recovery. He has been back to work and was at the CCSM executive committee meeting at the Mullery's house!

Adrienne Mitchell, Thelma Kromhout, Marge Marchant, and Carolyn Shaw thank everyone for their prayers and support during their recoveries.

Lorraine Gustafson has moved to Mills Estate Villa, 1733 California Drive, Room 102B, Burlingame, CA 94010. She enjoys visits from friends.

Rebecca Ruedy is healing well now and says "Thank you to our wonderful CCSM family for your prayers, calls, cards and kind expressions of support. It was a real "lift" during this time and a reminder of why I'm so grateful to be part of this amazing church!"

Prayers of Comfort

Evelyn Johansen passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 24, 2010, surrounded by her loving family. Her memorial service will be on **Sunday, June 13 at 3:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary with a reception to follow.

Prayers of Healing and Support

Mary Jane Foltz had a stroke last Thursday. She is at Peninsula Hospital, doing well, and can talk on the phone. Cards may be sent to 1477 Floribunda Ave, #307, Burlingame, 94010.

Gene Boaden has been at Chope Hospital this week. **Katherine** and Gene need our support and prayers.

Scotty Scott has moved from Peninsula Hospital to Mills-Peninsula Extended Care at 101 S. San Mateo Dr. in San Mateo until he is strong enough to go home.

Doris Godinez-Phillips will start her treatment on Tuesday this week. We surround Doris and **Veril** with healing prayers.

Allen Shelton has been on hospice care, but still has that twinkle in his eye and makes it to church sometimes.

We are keeping **Margi Stone, Zee and Cliff Larrew, and Gary Steele** in our prayers as they travel their different journeys with cancer.

Welcome New Members May 16, 2010

Karin Albright

Karin grew up in this church in the 1960s. She had great Sunday school teachers, who were open to discussion and who really made her think. Karin will never forget the youth minister's sermon one Christmas during the Viet Nam war, "May the Baby Jesus Shut Your Mouth and Open Your Mind"—what could have been more appropriate to the times?

Karin moved back to San Mateo after thirty-some years when her marriage ended. Before she left Cambridge, Karin Googled CCSM and realized that this was not the church she left, but absolutely a church that she could come home to. Every experience she's had since returning confirms her sense that she's in the right place, with the right leadership and the right people, on the right journey. Karin is grateful to be part of CCSM.

Anne and David Anderson

Anne and David have been attending church at CCSM on and off for several years. They've decided to become members for the sheer joy of it! They like what they have experienced at CCSM and are looking forward to sinking their roots down deeper.

Their background includes Methodism, Episcopalianism, and Presbyterianism. Anne and David are the founders of the East-West Interfaith Dialogue Group at the Mercy Center in Burlingame. Now they have returned to Congregationalism like their grandparents on both sides.

Their interests include small group discussions, and six months ago, they founded the peninsula chapter of the Institute of Noetic Sciences, which meets in their home. David's hobbies include gardening, dog walking, handyman work at home, group meetings, reading and poetry. Anne's interests include dogs (they are family), walking, writing Haiku poetry, playing the piano, reading and gardening. They are excited to be joining a church where members "walk the talk!"

Please consider a donation to the Ministry Growth Fund. The fund will allow us to finance Betsy's full-time position and to add Jerri Handy as our part-time minister of Pastoral Care. Please mention *Ministry Growth Fund* in the memo.



New members commitment day! Class of May 2010

Hilary and Paul Briant

Hilary, Paul, and six-month old Madeleine recently moved within a few blocks of CCSM. While looking for their first *family* church, CCSM stood out because of its progressive, inspiring, and helping atmosphere. It was exactly what they were searching for.

Hilary, originally from Chicago, is a pediatric nurse at Stanford's Lucille Packard Children's Hospital and actually enjoys the night shift. Paul grew up in the Northeast and is now a mechanical engineering consultant focusing on medical devices at Exponent in Menlo Park. Together with their daughter, Madeleine, and dog, Maggie, Hilary and Paul enjoy hiking, camping, and traveling.

Greg Davis

What a thrill to become part of this dynamic family. I am ending my first year at PSR, working on my MDiv degree. I come to the Bay Area from Las Vegas, where I have spent the last 12 years as Minister of Music and Worship at Community Lutheran Church. Before that I spent 15 years in show business. I have a church music degree from Oklahoma Baptist University and a Master in Music from the University of Houston. My father jokes that I am on my 17th career. What a journey it has been, and it has led me to you. I am looking forward to joining the CCSM ministry team in the fall of 2010 as Clergy Intern, as I prepare for ordination in the UCC. I have a wonderful life partner, Freddie Harmon, who lives in Vegas with our three furry pets, Grace, Ziggy and Chandler.

Irene Holmes

Irene has been coming to CCSM since 2009. She lives in San Carlos with her 7-year old daughter, Samantha. Samantha attends Arundel Elementary in San Carlos and is a part of the CCSM community.

Irene has settled in San Carlos and works in San Francisco as an attorney. Irene and Samantha enjoy everything that the Bay Area has to offer, so you can probably find them outside at a park or museum on the weekends. Samantha is an active child with a wonderful gift for anything creative (writing, art, craft making, pottery). She enjoys ice skating and walking the dog with her mom. Samantha loves coming to Church School and has made many friends here at CCSM.

Irene was drawn to the *Many Paths to God* concept of CCSM and values the wonderful members of this congregation. Both Irene and Samantha have found a sense of community here and they are grateful to become a part of CCSM.

Dorothy and Richard Kogl

Dorothy taught senior high school English for ten years and later adult writing and literature in a degree program at St. Mary's College in Moraga. Between the two teaching stints, Dorothy and her husband Richard raised two daughters, Eileen and Ana, both now adults and university professors. Dorothy and Richard enjoy their three grandchildren.

Dorothy loves literature, Tolstoy in particular, and belongs to two book clubs. Her other interests include writing family history, the theater, Eastern religions, and cooking. In the last few years, she has been working on nonviolent communication. Richard and Dorothy both enjoy discussing philosophical questions.

Richard retired from practicing psychiatry in 1998 and then proceeded to write short stories, plays and musicals. He is a published author of a short story and a psychological advice book for college students, and several plays and musicals. Richard is a student of modern history and currently volunteers with Project Read. They both look forward to belonging to a caring spiritual community.

Lynne Phillips

Lynne was brought up as a Presbyterian but "...it was not forced on us kids." Lynne joined Hope Center Covenant Church in Pleasant Hill, which now seems a lot like CCSM because of all their outreach ministries for the homeless and congregational support.

Lynne had a friend who joined YWAM (Youth With A Mission), lived in Japan and Germany, and kept in contact by mail. One night Lynne found herself thinking of nothing but YWAM, so she called her friend who encouraged her to contact the organization and fill out the forms. She did and before she knew it, she was on her way to missionary training school. Currently Lynne volunteers at the Peninsula Humane Society (SPCA) in the Kitten Nursery.

Donna Quan

Donna has lived in the Peninsula area for a long time, and is looking to be a more active member of the community. What better way to do that than through the auspices of a progressive church? Donna is hoping to fulfill a dual purpose...enabling her to give back to the community while growing spiritually at the same time. In her spare time, Donna enjoys reading, fitness and cooking classes.

Steve Russell

Steve is originally from Massachusetts and moved to the Bay Area in 1988. He is married to Linda and has two children, Max (10) and Jason (7). Linda is Japanese American, and they were married in a Buddhist ceremony at Linda's family church in 1994.

In the early 1980's Steve studied Witchcraft and practiced for a few years, but not since moving to the Bay Area. He also studied Buddhism and Hinduism and practices Yoga. While finding all these paths rewarding at certain levels, Steve has been drawn back to Christianity, but with concerns about fundamentalist outlooks that seem counter to God's eternal love. Steve has very much enjoyed CCSM, and its open and accepting policies, and finds worship here very rewarding spiritually. He is looking forward to continuing to explore his spiritual path here at CCSM.

Laura Smith

Laura grew up on the Florida panhandle where her parents instilled a deep faith and a hunger for spiritual exploration. She attended college, graduate school and started her career in Atlanta until 1994 when she relocated to the Bay Area.

She works in clinical finance operations for a biotechnology company. She is working on a certificate of Financial Planning through UC Berkeley. She also serves as the chair of the board of directors for Project Open Hand in San Francisco. Laura lives in El Granada with her two dogs. Over the past year she has felt a need for a spiritual community and is thrilled with the welcome and warmth discovered at CCSM.

First Sunday Food

By Linda Grier

First Sunday Food, our new monthly food collection program, starts June 6. The first Sunday of every month, bring your donation of non-perishable food (canned foods, peanut butter, pasta, etc.) to church and place it in the marked container in the narthex.

Every Sunday we hear, "God has no hands but your hands." By simply donating a can of tuna or a box of macaroni and cheese, let's put our faith into action to help feed local families in need. Thank you.

Simple Miracle: Just Add Time

CCSM has just finished a trial commitment to Samaritan house to serve food one evening per month. We are looking for volunteers to carry this forward. It takes less than three hours once per month to make a real difference in the lives of people in our community. Please contact any member of the Ministry of Mission and Social Justice (MSJ) or for more information contact Hal Hanlin at halbert9000@gmail.com.

Special News

Rev. Nixon has been elected to serve on the Pacific School of Religion's Board of Trustees beginning September 2010.

Congratulations, Penny!

Thank You

By Jerri Handy

I am returning to CCSM on Sept 13, 2010 for Homecoming Sunday. Thank you for the wonderful two years of learning and serving with you. I look forward to September when I will join the staff as Minister of Pastoral Care.

CCSM Summer Music

The summer music session will begin on **Sunday, June 20**, with a special performance by Shannon McEntee and Vija Norkvesta. The summer programming in general is an opportunity for the CCSM community at large to participate in the music program. Here are a number of ways you can get involved.

Share Your Musical Gifts

If you love to sing or play an instrument and would like to share your musical gifts with the congregation during a Sunday worship service—we would love to work with you! Youth are equally encouraged to participate! Please contact Lynnelle Bilsey (650 342-1795) if you would like to share a solo or participate in a small ensemble (instrumentalists and/or vocalists).

Drop-In Choir

Drop-In Choir will meet numerous times throughout the summer. This is a great time for singers of all ages to come on a Sunday morning and make a joyful noise! The only requirement for the Drop-In choir is that you come to Sunday morning for rehearsal (**9:15 - 10:10 a.m.**) followed by the service that day. The **first Drop-In Choir date will be Sun. June 27.**

Hymn-Sing Month

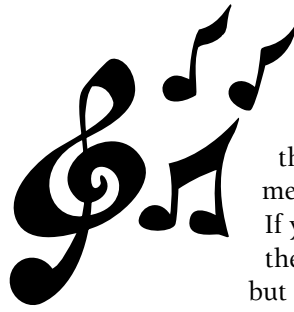
July at CCSM will be Hymn-Sing Month. If you have a favorite hymn (an oldie but goodie, a hymn you've been longing to sing or a favorite you just can't get enough of), this is your chance to request that title, share the music and participate in helping select the hymns for the month. There will be a sign-up sheet in Kloss Hall during the month of June, please write down your requests so we can plan for the month of July. Challenges are welcome. We don't guarantee we can find all of them, especially if they are from a while ago, but between Peter, Lynnelle and Penny, we think we can find most of them.

Congregational Care at CCSM

Continued from page 1

But you continually surprise me with the unofficial caring connections that you have with each other, connections that no one organized. We go to visit at the hospital and you're there ahead of us, I stop by with soup and find someone already there visiting. I think that we need meals for someone and find out that it's already been arranged. Care and support are never in short supply!

This latest *thank you* sums up what a great job you all are doing. "Dear Kaleidoscopians, What a delight to open my front door this morning and discover a beautiful May basket! It's a wonderful way to start the day. It is also special to know I have such thoughtful friends. I have missed coming to church for a month so I especially appreciated the contact with you. I'll think of you whenever I sit at my table and enjoy the flowers. Many, many thanks."



Beginning Music Workshop

There have been a number of requests through the years from congregation members to have a beginning music class. If you have avoided trying your hand at the bells or would love to sing in choir, but have let a concern about your musical knowledge hold you back, this is workshop is for you. We will look at the basics of reading music, understanding rhythm and general musicianship principles. If you've never picked up a sheet of music, or performed years ago, but feel a little rusty—this is your opportunity to come learn some music basics.

The workshops will be held on **Thursdays, June 17 and 24 from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** in the choir room at CCSM. Please sign up in Kloss Hall or call Lynnelle Bilsey (650 342-1795) if you would like to participate.

Summer Bells

Calling all *Ding-a-Lings*. Summer bells will be happening again this year. Some knowledge of music (reading especially) is helpful. This is a great opportunity for inter-generational music making (in other words, all ages). Dates for summer bells will be **Thursdays, July 8—July 29.**

Beginning Bells (those who haven't picked up a bell before and would like to learn to play) will be from **7:00- 8:00 p.m.**

Intermediate/Advanced Bells will be from **8:00-9:00 p.m.**

Be sure to watch the Pine Tree and Summer Calendars for other Summer Music News, special guests and musical Sundays!



The Pine Tree

A newsletter for the families & friends of the
Congregational Church Of San Mateo, U.C.C.

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