

The APPLESEED



Sebastopol United Methodist Church

500 Main Street Sebastopol, CA 95472

Email: sebumc@sonic.net ❖ 707.823.7971

TO ALL FAMILIES OF OUR BELOVED SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

I believe in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit as one and greetings in the name of the PRINCE OF PEACE.

Luke 2:10 & 11

Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people, to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah the Lord.

To God be the glory, great things he hath done, so loved he the world that he gave us his son who yielded his life as an atonement for sin and opened the life gate that all may go in...Alleluia!! Praise the Lord.

It has been a month since I moved into your beautiful community, and let me tell you that I have enjoyed every minute of it. I feel so blessed and very thankful to serve alongside you wonderful members of this lovely church. I am so pleased with all the support and warm welcome from everyone. I consider myself lucky to have sisters and brothers working together rebuilding the kingdom of God here on earth. My prayers go out to everyone whom I met and those whom I have with yet to meet.

With this Advent season already begun, we are all awaiting the coming of the Special One promised to us. Let our perspectives on Christmas be pure and Christ-centered. Let each gift be accompanied by true love. Let each greeting card profess our faith in God. Let us rejoice in the knowledge that God became man. A child in a humble manger, so that we could be reconciled with God and call him "Father" again.

May the peace of which the angels sang, not remain a dream but become a glorious reality to honor God.

From my family to yours
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Lunisi Tovo



Alternative Giving 2015

This holiday season consider giving family and friends an alternative gift. Through our Mission Team, it's possible to donate to 4 different programs; and you receive a Christmas card to be used to describe the gift. The Mission Team will be in Epworthian Hall after church to accept your donations, and provide more information about each program following worship on November 29, December 6 and 13. This year's programs are:

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

Heifer Project International's mission is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty around the world. Your donations may be directed to a variety of Heifer projects. Choose a meaningful gift for loved ones that will give other families appropriate training in farming and animal care that help them become self-reliant. For more information see www.heifer.org.

EUROPEAN REFUGEE RESPONSE (UMCOR advanced special 982450)

100% of your donation will go to help the refugees. UMCOR is working with the local churches in Europe to provide food, shelter, language classes, and fellowship groups, prepare meals, and legal and spiritual help.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Lake County Fire Rebuilding and Repair Fund

Habitat is an international, nondenominational Christian housing organization. Along with volunteers, Habitat builds simple, decent, affordable houses in partnership with those who need affordable housing. They have a special fund to raise money to help the Lake County fire victims rebuild their homes.

CHURCH DOOR

Church Door finances our local Mission work in Sebastopol. It supplements our church door bags, pays for sleeping bags, socks and ponchos for those in need. It also supports our Saturday Table lunches and helps with the purchase of laundry certificates when needed.



Christmas Luncheon

December 5th at noon

Julie Barbic will host her annual Christmas Luncheon and ornament exchange for the congregation. She makes an outstanding turkey dinner!

THE OLD WORLD CAROLERS

Help celebrate our 30th year and Alice's 150th



SAT. DEC. 5 PEARL JUBILEE BALL

with TIM RUED, NYCKELHARPA & FIDDLE
6-9 p.m. MONROE HALL

1400 W. COLLEGE AVE., SANTA ROSA ★ DONATION \$10 ★ WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE ★ WALTZ OR LISTEN ★ 19th-C. BALL, WONDERLAND, or SEA COSTUMES WELCOME ★ BRING DRY SHOES FOR DANCE FLOOR ★ HORS D'OEUVRE POTLUCK ★ BENEFITS OCEAN CHARITIES ★ INFO 707/824-1008



SUN. DEC. 6 CHRISTMAS IN OLD EUROPE

A CHORAL CONCERT OF TREASURES FROM SWEDEN, NORWAY, IRELAND, SPAIN, GERMANY, DENMARK, ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND MORE

3:30 SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

500 N. MAIN STREET, SEBASTOPOL

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10 ★ KIDS FREE ★ WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE
DOORS OPEN 3 P.M. ★ CALL 707/823-7971 FOR INFO
BENEFITS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHARITIES AND LOCAL SHELTERS
LISTEN TO SAMPLES: WWW.TRADITIONALFUN.ORG

Sing-Along Messiah – An Annual Holiday Event

Let your holiday spirits soar at the 22nd annual Sing-Along Messiah, Saturday, December 5th, at 2:00 pm at the Sebastopol United Methodist Church, 500 North Main Street. No previous experience or vocal ability is necessary.

This annual holiday event is directed by John Maas and features local instrumentalists and soloists. Light refreshments are provided and a limited number of scores are available for loan. Join the string quartet, soloists and chorus for a festive time for the whole family.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2pm; \$6/\$15 family (four or less)

SEBASTOPOL INTER-CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

Our congregation has been supporters of Sebastopol Inter-Church Food Pantry since it was organized by local churches more than 30 years ago. Donations of packaged food may be left in a basket in the entrance of the sanctuary. We also need egg cartons. The Pantry provides food every 30 days, if needed, for residents of Sebastopol and surrounding area, including Forestville. No referrals or ID are needed.

It is open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 - 12 am; clients are asked to phone ahead at 823 2483. It is located at the rear of the parking lot at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 500 Robinson Road, Sebastopol. Anyone interested in volunteering at the Pantry can phone Karen Bohn at 707-823-7963 or email ekbohn@comcast.net.

Help Needed

with Sunday Coffee is always appreciated. Just sign up on the coffee hour sheet in Epworthian Hall.

Golden Rule

Golden Rule normally meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 11:30 – 1:00 pm.

Due to the holiday schedule, this month Golden Rule will meet on December 17th. They are currently studying John Westey.

Adopt A Highway

The next scheduled date for litter pickup on Highway 12 is Saturday, Jan 9 at 9:15. We meet at the Chevron Station just east of downtown Sebastopol. Anyone 16 years and older are welcome to help; but you must view the safety dvd online at adopt-a-highway.dot.gov/ and click on "Safety DVD for all participants"

Socks for the Homeless

There will be a box in Epworthian Hall in December to collect new socks for the homeless. So if you see a good buy on a package of adult socks it would be the time to pick some up for the homeless. They will be delivered to the Homeless Service Center in Santa Rosa at the end of December.

WHY SCRIP?

It is a painless way to contribute to the Sebastopol UMC. Participating businesses donate a portion of the scrip purchased back to the Church and the purchaser or gift card (Scrip) recipient obtains full face value of the Scrip purchased. As an example, See's Candies donates 20% of the face value back to the Church.

Our Scrip program has been underway since 1995 and the return to the Church has varied from \$300 to over \$600 per month. Obviously, the more Scrip purchased, the more the Church earns.

The Holidays are the perfect time to give Scrip to family and friends as gift cards or to make large food purchases at our local markets for those Holiday celebrations.

We have Scrip for all the local food markets, and many chain stores. We can obtain Scrip for almost all major brands. However, for a large purchase, or for a store that we do not normally carry and inventory, you can call in advance and it can be ordered. Usually, an order is made every month.

If you have any questions, want to check our inventory, or make a special order, call Pat Schoch at (707) 823 3889 Let's support our church by purchasing SCRIP.

Thank you, Pat Schoch, Jenny Cheshire, Janice Magnoli

CALLING ALL SINGERS

Mark Reed is putting together a "pick up" choir to sing an anthem at the service on the twentieth of December. The group will be singing a four part piece that is familiar to most, (Lo How a Rose) that does not require any intense rehearsal. Mark would like to hold a meeting/practice at 7:30 on Wednesday 12/16 to sort out robes, folders, seating and the logistical aspects of the service. Rehearsal will be at 9:00 on 12/20. There will be copies of the song available after Sunday services in case you want to work ahead. Please let Mark Reed (at reedz@comcast.net) know if you would like to participate ASAP so he can count heads. It will be fun to have

Used Car Needed

Pastor lunisi is looking for an "around town" used car

January Newsletter Submissions
Please send your information to sebumc@sonic.net or the church office by **December 24**.