

The APPLESEED



Sebastopol United Methodist Church

500 Main Street Sebastopol, CA 95472

Email: sebumc@sonic.net ❖ 707.823.7971

Words from the Pastor

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember all the loving faces welcoming me here at church. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. Philippians 1:2-5

So often time in our life things happen unexpectedly and ruin our well-planned vacation or just a simple plan with friends. Imagine an unexpected knock on your door:

Knock, knock? Who is there? I am in need of help, any chance that we can use one of your rooms?

No answer. Oh! And my wife is about to have a baby! What will you do? Several answers probably arise from checking the next inn or not our problems and many more. Imagine when you have travelled for quite so long, and it is time to give birth and there is no vacancy in the first house you arrive. Humiliation, hurting, unworthiness and may be embarrassment, I can only guessing what was playing in Mary's mind when they were turned away from the inn.

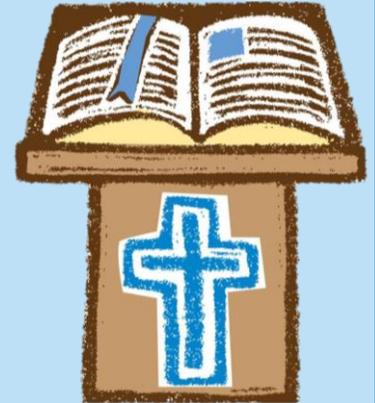
How about we can forget about a pregnant woman, how about someone got hurt or got sick, stranded on the highway? Homeless that needs a drink? Lucky for Mary the manger was available and the story goes on, then the song says ALL IS CALM ALL IS BRIGHT and there was mother and child were safe and sound.

We are at the end of the year, and we can all relate to the community's need. Seeing the faces of those who knock on the church office door asking for help with sleeping bags, and they also were given socks and warm hats. I am short of words to express my profound gladness in partaking in your ministries here at Sebastopol. Our mission team is working hard on make sure that those knocking on our church office door is answered, and the Saturday Table Team makes sure that the food is hot for those knocking for food.

Thank you all for the support and love, prayers and support.

I wish all a prosperous New Year.

Peace and Grace, Iunisi Tovo



"Community Round Up" Coffee Hour

January 17, 2016

after the Church service on Sunday

This will be a "Meet And Greet" between Church Parishioners, KOWS Volunteers, Business partners, and members of our community.

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"

Help Needed

with Sunday Coffee and/or Flowers for the Altar. Just sign up on the coffee hour sheet or the Altar Flowers sheet in Epworthian Hall.

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.

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.

We now have Copperfield Bookstore scrip available.

If you have any questions, want to check our inventory, or make a special order, call Pat Schoch at (707) 823 3889

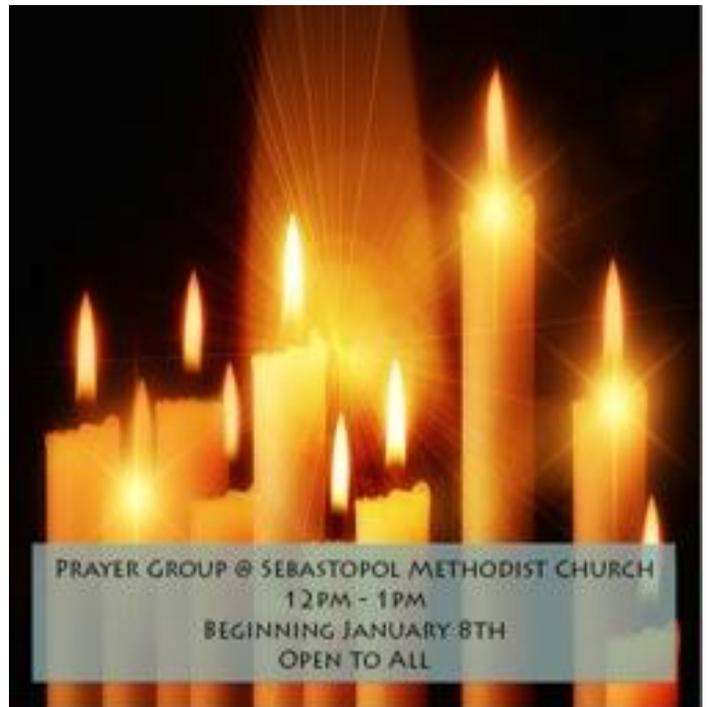
Let's support our church by purchasing SCRIP.

Thank you,
Pat Schoch, Jenny Cheshire, Janice Magnoli

Alternative Giving 2015

Alternative Giving Totals

Habitat for Humanity Fire Fund	\$685.00
Heifer International	\$560.00
European Refugees	\$605.00
Church Door	\$285.00
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Grand Total	\$2135.00



JOIN US FOR OPEN PRAYER & MEDITATIONS

We'll open our hearts, minds and spirits to the power of mindful prayer in community with one another.

**Open Prayer & Meditations will meet every Friday in the Sanctuary.
The first meeting is
JANUARY 8TH NOON-1PM**

2016 Young People's Ministry Events Youth Worker's Retreat: February 5-6

Youth Worker's Retreat is open to all adults who work with youth in local churches. All workers are invited to attend the 9th Annual Youth Worker's Retreat at the Waller Center, 1525 Waller St, San Francisco, CA.

Come spend a weekend in retreat and conversation with other Youth Workers from the Conference... You'll come away with new understandings of millennial research and the National Study on Youth and Religion, digital resources to building relationships & ministry, plans & ideas for new ministries to implement with your youth community. This will be a time to learn from and support each other in our work in youth ministry.

Cost: \$25/person

Registration

For additional information please contact:

Kelly Peterson, 916-374-1515 or

kellyp@calnevumc.org

Shari Sandoval, 916-374-1528 or

sharis@calnevumc.org

Golden Rule

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

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.



"SOUPER BOWL" 2016 DURING FEBRUARY

Your Missions Team has again decided to sponsor "Souper Bowl" during the month of February in 2016. We are asking that you donate cans of soup that will be given to F.I.S.H., the free food pantry. F.I.S.H. depends primarily on donations in order to provide soup to almost 5,000 clients each month. 40% of their clients are children. When available, about 1,300 cans of soup are given a month. Soup is an important part of F.I.S.H.'s menu as many people, especially seniors, make a meal out of a can of soup. F.I.S.H. distributes more than 650,000 pounds of free food to around 60,000 clients a year.

F.I.S.H has served all of Sonoma County, including West County, for more than 40 years. During that period, they have helped feed more than 1,300,000 people. The only qualification is the need for food.

Please bring donated soup to church on any Sunday in February and place it into the container located in the narthex of the church.

Church Leadership Team for 2016

Administrative Council Chair	Charlotte Fisher
Trustees	Charlie Fisher, Loren Brueggemann, Janice Magnoli, Hank Mauldin
Staff Parish	Co-Chairs: Barbara Stranzl & Vicky Ness Hugh Bailey, Howard Bredesen
Finance	Chair: Renee Barrett Charlotte Fisher, Howard Bredesen, Vicky Amtower, Michelle Olsen
Money Counters	Head Counter: Jennie Cheshier Joan Wilbur, Pam Ensign, Janice Magnoli, Carol Wegner, Kaci Wegner
Worship Planning Team	Judy Bredesen, Julie Barbic, Marlene Felsenfeld, Carol Wegner
Ushers	Hugh Bailey, Don Roberts, Linda Coffee, Church Austin, Pat Munsch
Communion Stewart	Suzanne Bailey
Sanctuary Décor	Martha Wade
Music Director	Jim Johnson
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Lisa Vanderboom
Luther Burbank Housing	Paul Schoch, Dee Schilling, Renee Barrett
Mission Team	Chair: Lisa Vanderboom Dennis Hansen, Jennie Cheshier, Julie Barbic, Karen Bohn, Ernie Bohn, Beth Wakelee, Vicki Amtower, Kaci Wegner
Scrip Task Force	Pat Schoch, Janice Magnoli
FISH	Dennis Hansen
Interchurch Food Pantry	Karen Bohn
Interfaith Ministry	Howard Bredesen, Lisa Vanderboom
Saturday Table	Violet Moir, Sally Rose
Alternate Giving	Vicky Amtower, Mary Blom
Fundraiser Luncheons	Marlene Felsenfeld
Golden Rule and Shut-in Ministry	Julie Barbic
Children's Education Task Force	

February Newsletter Submissions

Please send your information to sebumc@sonic.net or the church office by **January 30**.