

# The APPLESEED



## Sebastopol United Methodist Church

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### POWER OF LISTENING

Dorothy Johnson offers a prayer  
 “O Lord give me ears to hear as you hear, discernment to understand others as you understand and fitting words of wisdom for those I encounter today. May I speak life, hope and love instead of suspicion, judgment and criticism (From alive Now!)



Welcome to the month of February with the continuing manifestation of God through His son Jesus Christ. We have heard many times about the first voice of John the Baptist pointing out Jesus as the Lamb of God. The first witness to call out the Special person with unique task in saving the world.

Psalmist had assured us that those are willingly witnessing the glory of God will rise praising him. The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear! When evils advance against me to devour my flesh, they will stumble and fall. One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

That is the invitation for this month to re-committing ourselves listening to him as Daniel Wolport suggested...“After a time of listening to God in the stillness we are moved to respond...wait for the words to arise from deep within.” Spending some quiet time mesmerizing in Gods’ word in the silence of his presence brings great understanding. Open our minds to recognize his presence so that we can do things according to his will. We had been moving out of the sanctuary serving our community through our ministries and delightfully making a difference in others life as well and we all know that we are on the right track, however, there is more to do.

May the light of our Lord sustain you all and rejoice in His name and His mighty always.

Peace and Grace  
 Pastor Iunisi

### Administrative Council News

The Administrative Council has been doing some long-term planning with the goal of making the financial status of the Sebastopol United Methodist Church sustainable. Since we have a campus with four buildings: the Sanctuary (includes Christian Education wing with six classrooms), Epworthian Hall (fellowship hall), and two houses. One house with four bedrooms and two bathrooms is currently being used as the parsonage. The other house is smaller and is currently being used as a pre-school with a contractor operating the school.

Rooms in the lower level of the Sanctuary are being rented by three businesses including an accounting firm and two music instruction businesses. Also, one of the Christian Education classrooms is currently rented by a local public service radio station. This leaves five classrooms empty for most of the time. Sunday School occupies one room for a couple hours a week on Sunday and Alcoholics Anonymous a couple hours each week.

The proposed plan is to use three Christian Education classroom for the pre-school after modifications and to rehab the small house for use as a home either for a parsonage or for a rental. This additional rental space could add \$20,000 to the operational budget annually.

Ad. Council is currently in the process of taking any comments or questions. If you have anything you wish to say, please contact any one of us or leave a message in the church office. The next phase is to start the design of the classrooms for use by pre-school children. Once design is ready we will be securing funding in the range of \$100,000.

Let us hear from you.

## Saturday Table Thank You for January 2017

**Thank you** to those who helped with the Saturday Table Lunch, for those in need of a meal, in the month of January 2017: **Those supplying food:** Jennie Cheshier, Karen Bohn, Pat and Paul Schoch, Betty Stychno, Barbara Hansen, and Laura Williams.

**Those working at Saturday Table** in January were Vicki Amtower, Barbara Hansen, Jennie Cheshier, Betty Stychno, Carol Wegner, Pat Munch and Mark Reed. When I sent out the message that I was sick and we needed some help so many wonderful people came forward. Thank you!!

Thanks for the advance preparations for Church Door Bags, sleeping bags, and socks to Michelle Olson-Brueggemann. Thanks to those who donated money to help with Saturday Table.

We served 10 meals to our guests and sent 5 meals out with our guests. We supplied each guest with a snack bag

Next Saturday Table will be on February 25, 2017.

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### Golden Rule

Golden Rule meets on the second and fourth

Thursdays of each month

Next Meetings are

Feb 9 & 23

### Women's Christian Study Group

will meet

Saturday, February 11, 2017

at 10 a.m.

at

Janice Magnoli's Home

1304 Bloomfield Road, Sebastopol

707 829-8132

### UMCOR UPDATE

October 20, 2016 we mailed 60 school kits to UMCOR in Louisiana. A very successful fundraiser!

Much work went into this fundraiser. Thank-you to all who donated their time, money, purchasing of the supplies, sewing school bags and assembling the kits.

The money raised from the UMCOR July hot dog fundraiser, \$687.00, was used to purchase some items and also to mail the school kits. The remainder of that money was donated to UMCOR.

The few items left over that did not make a complete kit were taken to the Living Room, a day center providing services to homeless and at-risk women and their children.

Thank-you again everyone!

Vicki Amtower

Mission Team Chair

### Adopt A Highway

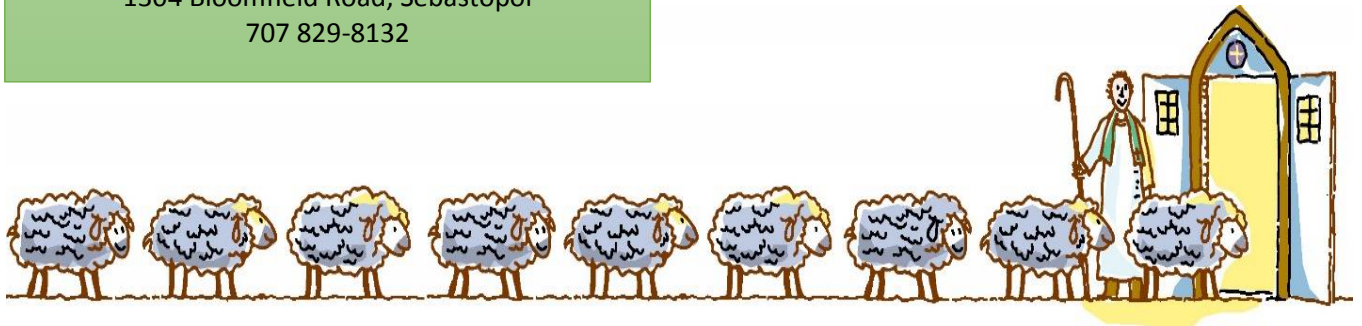
The next scheduled date for litter pickup on Highway 12 is Saturday, Feb 9 at 9:15. We meet at the Chevron Station just east of downtown Sebastopol. Anyone 16 years and older are welcome to help; but you must view the safety dvd online at [adopt-a-highway.dot.gov/](http://adopt-a-highway.dot.gov/) and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

### MISSION TEAM

Will meet on Thursday Feb 9<sup>th</sup>

at

10:00 a.m.



## Church Door Donations

Our church door donations have not been covering the sleeping bag purchases and the church door bags entirely. To continue with our mission efforts we are also accepting sponsorships for the month. To assemble the bags and have toiletries available as needed we usually spend about \$100 per month. We have started offering our congregation the opportunity to sponsor these monthly purchases. If you are interested in sponsoring for our church door bags, please send a check to the office for the amount you would like to sponsor and add CHURCH DOOR on the memo part of your check and let Michelle Olson know so we can make sure you are acknowledged in the Appleseed Newsletter. If you have any questions regarding this please feel free to call Michelle Olson at 707-528-3831.

## 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](mailto:ekbohn@comcast.net).

## OPEN HOUSE

Katie Ketchum (the church's newest tenant) is having a free open house in her new studio on Saturday, February 4th from 12 to 2.

There will be music, refreshments, an art demonstration, blessing, viewing of my paintings and information on classes. Location is through the iron gates under the sanctuary. Everyone welcome.

There will be other open houses on first Saturdays, throughout the year.

## CARING SUPPORT GROUP

The Caring Support Group will not be meeting in February. For any questions regarding this group, please contact Marlene Felsenfeld at email: [marfels@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marfels@sbcglobal.net) or cell phone: (808) 255-2343.

## “SOUPER BOWL” 2017 DURING FEBRUARY

Your Missions Team has again decided to sponsor “Souper Bowl” during the month of February in 2017. 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. distributed more than 630,000 pounds of free food to over 57,000 people last year.

F.I.S.H. has served all of Sonoma County, including West County, for over 44 years. During that period, they have helped feed more than 1,400,000 people. The only qualification is the need for food.



# Daily Readings

## Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, January 29, 2017

- **Monday (January 30, 2017):** Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25
- **Tuesday (January 31, 2017):** Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6
- **Wednesday (February 1, 2017):** Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22; Luke 6:17-26

## Presentation of the Lord, February 2, 2017

- **Friday (February 3, 2017):** Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:1-12; James 3:13-18
- **Saturday (February 4, 2017):** Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:13-16; Mark 7:1-8

## Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 5, 2017

- **Monday (February 6, 2017):** Psalm 119:105-112; 2 Kings 22:3-20; Romans 11:2-10
- **Tuesday (February 7, 2017):** Psalm 119:105-112; 2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25; 2 Corinthians 4:1-12
- **Wednesday (February 8, 2017):** Psalm 119:105-112; Proverbs 6:6-23; John 8:12-30
- **Thursday (February 9, 2017):** Psalm 119:1-8; Genesis 26:1-5; James 1:12-16
- **Friday (February 10, 2017):** Psalm 119:1-8; Leviticus 26:34-46; 1 John 2:7-17
- **Saturday (February 11, 2017):** Psalm 119:1-8; Deuteronomy 30:1-9a; Matthew 15:1-9

## Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 12, 2017

- **Monday (February 13, 2017):** Psalm 119:9-16; Exodus 20:1-21; James 1:2-8
- **Tuesday (February 14, 2017):** Psalm 119:9-16; Deuteronomy 23:21-24:4, 10-15; James 2:1-13
- **Wednesday (February 15, 2017):** Psalm 119:9-16; Proverbs 2:1-15; Matthew 19:1-12
- **Thursday (February 16, 2017):** Psalm 119:33-40; Exodus 22:21-27; 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1
- **Friday (February 17, 2017):** Psalm 119:33-40; Leviticus 6:1-7; Galatians 5:2-6
- **Saturday (February 18, 2017):** Psalm 119:33-40; Leviticus 24:10-23; Matthew 7:1-12

## Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany, February 19, 2017

- **Monday (February 20, 2017):** Psalm 119:57-64; Proverbs 25:11-22 ; Romans 12:9-21
- **Tuesday (February 21, 2017):** Psalm 119:57-64; Genesis 31:1-3, 17-50; Hebrews 12:14-16
- **Wednesday (February 22, 2017):** Psalm 119:57-64; Proverbs 3:27-35; Luke 18:18-30
- **Thursday (February 23, 2017):** Psalm 2; Exodus 6:2-9; Hebrews 8:1-7
- **Friday (February 24, 2017):** Psalm 2; Exodus 19:9b-25; Hebrews 11:23-28
- **Saturday (February 25, 2017):** Psalm 2; 1 Kings 21:20-29; Mark 9:9-13

## Transfiguration Sunday, February 26, 2017

- **Monday (February 27, 2017):** Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; Exodus 33:7-23; Acts 7:30-34
- **Tuesday (February 28, 2017):** Acts 7:30-34; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Romans 11:1-6



# February 2017

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

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FRI

SAT

01

02

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04

Office Hours 1-4 p.m. Highway Clean-up

05

06

07

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11

Office Hours 1-4 p.m.

Mission Team Golden Rule

Office Hours 1-4 p.m. Women's Study Group

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18

Office Hours 1-4 p.m.

Meeting regarding the Homeless

Biblical Sharing 12-1 p.m. Office Hours 1-4 p.m.

19

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21

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23

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25

Office Hours 1-4 p.m.

Golden Rule

Office Hours 1-4 p.m. Saturday Table

26

27

28

Newsletter Deadline

Office Hours 1-4 p.m.

## February Lay Readers

February 5: Loren Brueggemann  
 February 12: Mark Reed  
 February 19: Beth Wakelee  
 February 26: Matt Witteman