

The APPLESEED

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



PEACE, PURPOSE, AND POWER!

Peace to you and to all who are in Jesus Christ. It is a great honor, with humble privilege, to welcome you to the month of November. We may be reluctant to feel joyful this month because of our deep feelings of sorrow and worry for those directly affected by last month's fires. Yet, in spite of the tremendous tragedy, we see people choosing to start living life again, looking to the future, because life goes on. We are fortunate here at church that no lives nor homes were lost, but our members are still worried about family members, friends, and colleagues who have been directly impacted by the fires. The smoke did reach and affect us all; embers and ash floated around us, and the toxic air we breathed seemed as if it might be here forever. The fires redefined us and all who live in our County. We re-scheduled our daily lives from planning way ahead to planning for a sudden emergency in case it happens again. What would we take, what would we leave behind, if a mandatory evacuation was called in our neighborhood? Much to my amazement, many people told me that what they would most miss, even more than losing their homes, would be to lose the bonds, the friendship, the voices of children, the sense of community they have enjoyed, even if they may only have said hello and goodbye to neighbors occasionally.

Every time I talk about the fires I am in tears because it is not imaginary – the new things I saw, the new experiences and new people I met, these were and are *real*. Faces of confusion on evacuees, as well as faces of those willing to help them. How dreadful it may sound, but we must believe that life goes on, as we read in **John 14: 1** – this passage reminds us to not let anything trouble us, but to trust in the Lord and trust in Him only.

This season is a time during which we witness the leaves falling, and we can see exposed tree branches full of fruit. Despite the trees losing their leaves, we are particularly grateful for the fruits produced. Old leaves will be put in the compost and recycled into good soil and reused for new growth. Similarly, in our lives we let go of yesterday's tragedy and re-program our lives for new things, with the presence of the Holy Spirit within us. Praise be to Him. We still have the power of God in us and he will redirect us to his purpose. The victory will be ours, and the story to tell will be based upon our experience with him. There is a roof above our head, food on the table, shoes on our feet, and the love of God is with us. We still have each other and we are still here for his mission to be done. Through our prayers and by partaking in any way we can, we will be part of the beginning of new relationships ahead. New beginnings, new purpose, with the power of God who will provide peace for all.

Please offer a prayer for a family who lost everything during the fires when celebrating Thanksgiving with your family. Reaffirm joyful relationships among family members and be thankful for what God has blessed us with, and pray for all who need love and peace. Prayers to you with peace and grace,



Pastor Lunisi Tovo

WISHING EVERYONE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING!

BE GRATEFUL, PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW, & GIVE THANKS!

Sebastopol United Methodist Church – 500 North Main Street, Sebastopol CA 95472

office phone: (707) 823-7971 – email: sebumc@sonic.net – website: sebumc.org

ALTERNATE GIVING 2017

The Mission Team continues its tradition of sponsoring Alternate Giving to provide an alternative gift for your loved ones during the holiday season. This season we offer three different programs to which you can donate and receive a Christmas card which describes the gift.

After church on **Nov. 26** and **Dec. 3, 10, and 17**, the Mission Team will be in Epworthian Hall to accept your donations and share information about the programs. This year's programs are:

1. **UMCOR** – to help Sonoma County fire victims;
2. **Heifer International** – Heifer works with communities to lessen hunger & poverty around the world. Your donations may be directed to a variety of Heifer projects. Choose a meaningful gift for your loved ones that will also give other families training in farming and animal care, which helps them to become self-reliant. For more information visit their website at www.heifer.org ;
3. Contributions for **Park Village–West County Homeless Advocates partnership with City of Sebastopol** to house homeless families & individuals. Through this program, a West County Community Services case manager provides supportive services to current as well as incoming residents of the Village Mobile Home Park – new residents will be housed on currently empty pads in recreational vehicles connected to city plumbing, water, and electricity. This innovative effort makes housing available for Sebastopol-area homeless at a fraction of the average cost of such a program.

KOWS RADIO will hold a benefit for SoCo fire victims on Saturday 11/11, 7pm at St. Stephen's Church, Sebastopol



Our **MISSION TEAM** meets on the second Tuesday of each month in Epworthian Hall from 9:30am to 11:30am.
Please join us!

SONOMA FIRE RELIEF FUND

Our Conference Disaster Relief 550 Fund will assist those who have suffered due to the devastating fires in our area. If you would like to donate to this fund, please write a check to SUMC and add the note "Conference Disaster Relief 550"
– THANK YOU VERY MUCH –

HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF

Those wishing to respond to the current devastation in Texas and Louisiana caused by Hurricane Harvey may write a check to SUMC and designate "UMCOR Advance #901670–Hurricane Harvey."
– THANK YOU –

GOLDEN RULE

Golden Rule meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in Epworthian Hall. We share a potluck meal and discuss religious and philosophical issues of mutual interest. For info please contact the church office.

- Next Meeting is November 9th -- NO Meeting on 11/23 •

NEXT LITTER CLEAN-UP EVENT IS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

The Highway 12 Litter Clean-up Project continues with our next work day on **Saturday, November 18th**. We meet at 9:15 a.m., at the Chevron station at the West end of Highway 12, just east of the Laguna de Santa Rosa bridge. Please contact Paul Schoch for more info, 707-823-3889.

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT JULIE BARBIC'S

BRING AN ORNAMENT TO SHARE

Saturday, December 2nd
NOON

VINTAGE GIFTS & HOLIDAY CRAFTS SALE *to benefit Sonoma County fire victims*

Please come to our BIG EVENT on **Saturday, November 11, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**, in Epworthian Hall. In addition to gifts and crafts we will have quiche, chili, baked goods, and snacks for purchase to take home or to enjoy on-site with coffee or tea. All proceeds from this sale will be donated to fire victims of Sonoma County – we will consult with Methodist connections, UMCOR, and other reliable organizations for distribution of the funds & other supplies.

Set-up, sorting & pricing dates: Mon 11/6 thru Friday 11/10, 09:30 am to noon; also on Friday 11/10 from noon -to 5:00 pm. Come help, or drop off donations during these times. **To let us know if you can help on the day of the sale, please call:** Julie Barbic at (707) 795-1690 or Marlene Felsenfeld at (707) 242-7605, cell (808) 255-2343, email: marfels@sbcglobal.net. Call us if you want to make other arrangements for donations. Some items will still be available for sale on Sunday 11/12 after church services, during the Coffee Social.

WE SEEK DONATIONS OF

Artwork • Baked goods • Thanksgiving & Christmas decor & gift items • Crafts
Larger items - please submit a photo which can be displayed
Preserves • Re-giftable items in good condition • Silent Auction items

ARTISTS & CRAFTERS: WE HAVE AN AREA FOR YOU TO SELL YOUR CREATIONS –
YOU CHOOSE THE PERCENTAGE YOU WANT TO DONATE TO THE CHURCH

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – CAN YOU HELP?

Cafe servers – Baked goods coordinator – Holding section coordinator – Sorters
Pricers – Cashiers – Assistance at the Pizzelle Table – Floaters & Greeters
Coordinator for the basket table (help wrap baskets of purchased items)
Coordinator for the silent auction – Coordinator for the artist/crafter area

Please *kokua* (help, in Hawai'iian), Blessings & Thanks, Marlene and Julie

NOVEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

11/05 Susan Kinder

11/12 Loren Brueggemann

11/19 Vicky Ness

11/26 Beth Wakelee

OLD WORLD CAROLERS HOLIDAY BENEFIT CONCERT

*a shared fundraiser
with SebUMC*

REHEARSAL:

Thursday November 30th, 7pm
in the sanctuary

CONCERT:

Sunday December 3rd, 3p
in the sanctuary
*(please confirm concert time
by calling the office)*

Welcome the holidays with song!

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PAULSEN

Dear Friends at Sebastopol UMC,

While it has been many years since I was among you, my thoughts and caring are never far from you. During these scary weeks I know you have been worrying, and helping neighbors in Santa Rosa and elsewhere. Thanks be to God for you.

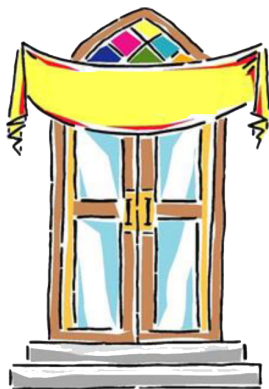
As I heard the locations of fires, I recalled living in Ukiah where I completed my student teaching in Potter Valley, knowing many in Redwood Valley, serving as your pastor in Sebastopol for five years, and visiting many homes in Santa Rosa. I have fond memories of Sonoma and Mendocino Counties, and of you all.

While I retired two different times, I am called back again for this full year to serve as Pastor of New Vision UMC in Millbrae, where I am enjoying that congregation as well. I must still have a few things yet to say in the pulpit.

I live in Mountain View and often travel to Torrance to see my son's family, including my two granddaughters. My daughter lives in San Jose and takes the train to work at Palo Alto Medical Foundation Eye Dept. – she had received training at Sebastopol Eye Surgery Center when we lived there.

May you all be well. You remain in my thoughts and prayers. – **Pastor Karen Paulsen**

CHURCH DOOR OFFERINGS



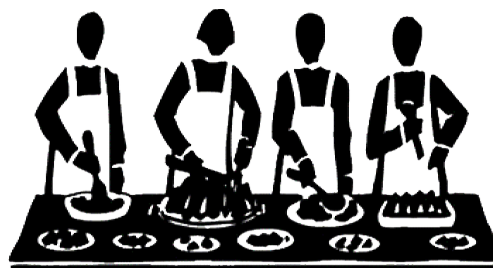
Your generous support of our Church Door ministry enables us to offer a variety of items to our neighbors in need, either at the church office or during our monthly Saturday Table luncheons. This month we are in particular need of **Applesauce singles, tins of Vienna sausage, juice boxes, Club cheddar and cheese crackers, and Quaker bars** (peanut butter and chocolate varieties).

We do NOT need any personal care items at this time. If you are able to donate any of the food items listed above, please drop them in the basket in the Narthex. During the month of October we assembled approx. 2 dozen bags -- several went to the office, and the rest were available for our Saturday Table guests.

As ever, we thank you for your generosity.

DIRECTORY UPDATE CONTINUES

We continue to update the Church Directory, and plan to print the new edition by the end of 2017. If you still need to update your listing, PLEASE contact the office by phone, email, or mail with your current information as soon as you can – we look forward to issuing a correct Directory for the New Year! *Thank you.*

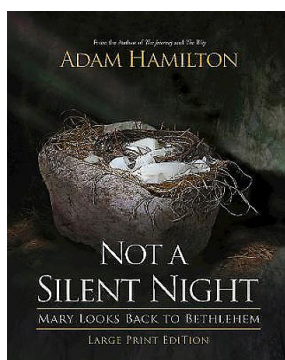


SATURDAY TABLE

Thank you to everyone who donates money, food, and/or time to help with Saturday Table – your important contributions directly help hungry people in our community.

- November Saturday Table is 11/25 •
- December Saturday Table is 12/23 •

ADVENT STUDY GROUP



***Not A Silent Night:
Mary Looks Back
to Bethlehem***
by Adam Hamilton

Meet on these
four Thursdays:
**November 30
December 7, 14, & 21**
at 4:00 pm in the Chapel

The book for this study group will be available by mid-November for purchase from SebUMC – please call the office for info. Pastor Lunisi will lead the first session; Carol Wegner and Charlotte Fisher will each lead sessions; then Pastor Lunisi will lead the final session. Questions? Please call the office for more information.

THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS

SEBASTOPOL INTER-CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE • Once again the Sebastopol Inter-Church Food Pantry will collect food for its 2017 Thanksgiving Drive over the next three Sundays – November 5, 12, and 19. Please place your food donations on or near the altar on these dates. Packaged or canned foods are welcome – peanut butter, soups, pasta, and sauce are especially appreciated. *Can we top last year's collection of 30 bags full? Let's try!* We will also need help loading the collected food onto Karen Bohn's truck after service on the 19th – THANK YOU in advance to all who can lend a hand.

DAILY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 2017



- Wednesday, November 1, 2017: All Saints Day
- Thursday, November 2, 2017: Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 1:1-11; Romans 2:17-29 OR Psalm 43; 1 Samuel 2:27-36; Romans 2:17-29
- Friday, November 3, 2017: Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:1-14; 2 Peter 2:1-3 OR Psalm 43; Ezekiel 13:1-16; 2 Peter 2:1-3
- Saturday, November 4, 2017: Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:15-24; Matthew 23:13-28 OR Psalm 43; Malachi 1:6-2:9; Matthew 23:13-28
- Sunday, November 5, 2017: Proper 26 (31)
- Monday, November 6, 2017: Psalm 128; Joshua 4:1-24; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20 OR Psalm 5; Jeremiah 5:18-31; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
- Tuesday, November 7, 2017: Psalm 128; Joshua 6:1-16, 20; Acts 13:1-12 OR Psalm 5; Lamentations 2:13-17; Acts 13:1-12
- Wednesday, November 8, 2017: Psalm 128; Joshua 10:12-14; Matthew 15:1-9 OR Psalm 5; Proverbs 16:21-33; Matthew 15:1-9
- Thursday, November 9, 2017: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 5:10-12; Revelation 8:6-9:12 OR Psalm 70; Amos 1:1-2:5; Revelation 8:6-9:12
- Friday, November 10, 2017: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 8:30-35; Revelation 9:13-21 OR Psalm 70; Amos 3:1-12; Revelation 9:13-21
- Saturday, November 11, 2017: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 20:1-9; Matthew 24:1-14 OR Psalm 70; Amos 4:6-13; Matthew 24:1-14
- Sunday, November 12, 2017: Proper 27 (32)
- Monday, November 13, 2017: Psalm 78; Joshua 24:25-33; 1 Corinthians 14:20-25 OR Psalm 63; Amos 8:7-14; 1 Corinthians 14:20-25
- Tuesday, November 14, 2017: Psalm 78; Nehemiah 8:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 OR Psalm 63; Joel 1:1-14; 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13
- Wednesday, November 15, 2017: Psalm 78; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 24:29-35 OR Psalm 63; Joel 3:9-21; Matthew 24:29-35
- Thursday, November 16, 2017: Psalm 123; Judges 2:6-15; Revelation 16:1-7 OR Psalm 90:1-8, 12; Ezekiel 6:1-14; Revelation 16:1-7
- Friday, November 17, 2017: Psalm 123; Judges 2:16-23; Revelation 16:8-21 OR Psalm 90:1-8, 12; Ezekiel 7:1-9; Revelation 16:8-21
- Saturday, November 18, 2017: Psalm 123; Judges 5:1-12; Matthew 12:43-45 OR Psalm 90:1-8, 12; Ezekiel 7:10-27; Matthew 12:43-45
- Sunday, November 19, 2017: Proper 28 (33)
- Monday, November 20, 2017: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Judges 4:8-24; Romans 2:1-11 OR Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 1:7-17; Romans 2:1-11
- Tuesday, November 21, 2017: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Exodus 2:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18 OR Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 2:1-5; 5:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18
- Wednesday, November 22, 2017: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Esther 7:1-10; Matthew 24:45-51 OR Psalm 9:1-14; Job 16:1-21; Matthew 24:45-51
- Thursday, November 23, 2017: Psalm 100; Genesis 48:15-22; Revelation 14:1-11 OR Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Kings 22:13-23; Revelation 14:1-11
- Friday, November 24, 2017: Psalm 100; Isaiah 40:1-11; Revelation 22:1-9 OR Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Chronicles 17:1-15; Revelation 22:1-9
- Saturday, November 25, 2017: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:25-31; Matthew 12:46-50 OR Psalm 95:1-7a; Isaiah 44:21-28; Matthew 12:46-50
- Sunday, November 26, 2017: Reign of Christ - Proper 29 (34)
- Monday, November 27, 2017: Psalm 117; Jeremiah 30:1-17; Revelation 21:5-27 OR Psalm 24; Jeremiah 46:18-28; Revelation 21:5-27
- Tuesday, November 28, 2017: Psalm 117; Jeremiah 30:18-24; Revelation 22:8-21 OR Psalm 24; Isaiah 33:17-22; Revelation 22:8-21
- Wednesday, November 29, 2017: Psalm 117; Jeremiah 31:1-6; Luke 1:1-4 OR Psalm 24; Isaiah 60:8-16; Luke 1:1-4
- Thursday, November 30, 2017: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 13:1-9; Revelation 14:6-13

NOVEMBER 2017

• PLEASE REFER TO NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS, OR CALL OFFICE •

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| <p>NOTE THESE EARLY *DECEMBER* EVENTS:</p> <p>SAT. 12/02 – DECORATE SANCTUARY SUN. 12/03 – OLD WORLD CAROLERS SAT. 12/09 – SING-ALONG MESSIAH THURS. ADVENT STUDY GROUP CONTINUES</p> | | | <p>1 All Saints Day</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> |
| <p>5 2018 Pledges are Due Today</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8</p> | <p>9 Golden Rule</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11 Holiday Sale</p> |
| <p>12</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14 Mission Team</p> | <p>15</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18 Highway 12 Cleanup Day</p> |
| <p>19</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22</p> | <p>23 Thanksgiving Day (no Golden Rule today)</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25 Saturday Table</p> |
| <p>26</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29</p> | <p>30 Advent Study Group OW Carolers Rehearsal</p> | <p>Dec 1</p> | <p>2 Christmas Party at Barbic Home</p> |

**SUBMISSIONS
FOR DECEMBER
APPLESEED
DUE TODAY!**



Sebastopol United Methodist Church 500 North Main Street, Sebastopol CA 95472
 office phone: (707) 823-7971 email: sebumc@sonic.net website: sebumc.org

SCRIP SALES SUPPORT SEB UMC! THANK YOU!!