

The APPLESEED

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER



A HAPPY, BLESSED, & HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” — Joshua 24:15

What gift do we take for the New Year? As Joshua made it a priority for the Israelites to reach Canaan, he made it clear that his own household had made its decision to serve God. Joshua knew that the majority of Israelites were vague with their faith, but he knew that his family must and would live by their faith in God. Joshua showed, through his leadership, that he would steadfastly trust God and set an example for others to follow. He knew that his obligations both to his family and to his community would be forever entwined.

When we are empowered and participate in strategizing on church issues and spiritual activities, we are merging our own families with other families. We learn from each other, pray for each other, pat each other's backs, and lend our hands to those who seem overwhelmed with the daily burdens of life. Joshua's clarity and leadership brightly illuminated his great faith in God. He practiced leadership that Paul, in later centuries, reminded Timothy about: spiritual leadership that must be hospitable, able to teach, self-controlled, and respectable. Our role in directing our lives to Christ and sharing our gifts with others is always a challenge for us, but spending time with God in prayer and meditation makes all things possible.

As we move into the first month of the year, we are blessed and filled with the gifts of various leadership skills, however, faith in the Lord is one characteristic that is so much needed as we go through our lives. It is freely given and freely accepted, but in our church and in our house we will serve the Lord. We will continue to take care of what God has generously given us. We work in different teams with team leaders chosen to serve the Lord. We are not here to serve each other. Our household (the church) is serving the Lord, and what he requires of us is to love each other, do justice and walk humbly with God. A gift of faith is within us: it is the essence of something that is not known, however, Jesus says in Matthew 17:20, "... Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

May the Blessed Grace of our Living God bring joy, peace, love, hope, & faith to you all as we embark on this new year!
Blessings,

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

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

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



*Minerva G. Carcaño, Bishop
Schuyler Rhodes, District Superintendent*

Los Rios District

California-Nevada Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

January 5, 2018

Sebastopol UMC
500 N. Main Street
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am writing as we step into a new year in a new District together to give you my thanks and gratitude for your faithfulness and witness in ministry. The Los Rios District is quickly taking shape as we build new leadership teams and focus on the work before us. There is no doubt about it! We are in an exciting and challenging time.

This letter comes to you because it's clear to me that you and your faith community are an important part of what is happening in our District and throughout our Annual Conference.

I am excited to be able to offer you thanks and gratitude for the way in which you have all stepped up in the giving to the Conference Tithe!

Your Church's giving thus far in 2017 has increased by 15.7%! That is a total of \$1,923 over last year's giving. Congratulations!

Your witness to our connectional strength lifts up the many things we do together as United Methodists! From schools to hospitals to new church development and beyond, your generosity expands our reach

I look forward to being able to come to your church to personally thank you and your congregation in the coming months. However, I could not wait to send this letter of appreciation to you. I hope you will share it widely with your congregation!

Thanking God for you and rejoicing in the Spirit that is coming upon us all in this time of revitalization and revival, I am

Yours in Christ,

DS Schuyler

Location:
1350 Halyard Drive
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Mail:
P.O. Box 9801250
W. Sacramento, CA 95798

Telephone (916)374-1501
Fax: (916)372-5527
E-mail: losrios@calnevumc.org

“SOUPER BOWL” 2018

Your Mission Team has again decided to sponsor “Souper Bowl” during the month of February in 2018. 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. The number of seniors served during the last two years has increased substantially.

F.I.S.H. distributed just under 750,000 pounds of free food to over 57,000 people during 2016. They expect similar numbers in 2017. They have served all of Sonoma County, including West County, for 45 years. During that period, they have helped feed more than 1,400,000 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.

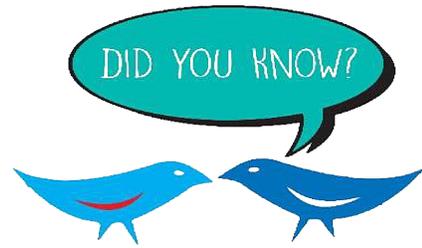
FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We *literally* count on all of you in supporting the church financially. Your contributions throughout the year keep the church running and make a difference. Our recently-concluded financial pledge campaign resulted in sixty-five percent of members making a commitment to contribute to the church in 2018 – this is the highest percentage of members making a pledge commitment ever! By making known your intentions, the work of the finance committee to create a church wide budget for 2018 is advanced with confidence. *With deep gratitude and appreciation, we 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 pot-luck meal and discuss religious and philosophical issues of mutual interest. For info please contact the church office.

• Next Meetings are January 11th and 25th •



... That Linda & Randy Coffee's son Dustin got married on September 16, 2017 to Marie Aimo at the Watts Ranch in Bodega – It was a beautiful wedding.

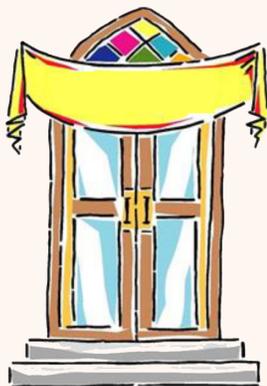
... That John & Laura Williams's son David got married on July 29, 2017 to Joanne Torres at The Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, Santa Rosa – also a beautiful wedding.

... That Pat & Paul Schoch recently returned from a four-week trip, driving over 5,000 miles, through 14 states: Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri, Kansas, New Mexico, Arizona, and back to California via Los Angeles. They visited and often stayed overnight with relatives (14 nieces and nephews) and friends. During the trip, Pat attended her 65th Class Reunion in Indiana. Nine nights were spent in their camper van, and only 3 nights were spent in a motel when their van needed a repair in Albuquerque. What an inspiration! Ask them about the rest of the story...

... That the reason Dorothy Jennings planted the oak tree in her front yard is because a young oak tree saved her life when she was 15 years old. She was on the way to high school in a classmate's car because she missed her bus. The road was wet and icy; the driver lost control rounding a curve; the car began sliding and turned completely around. Dorothy's passenger side of the car crashed through the guard rail. When they regained consciousness, the bottom of the car was stuck on an oak tree which stopped the car from going straight down a cliff! Thanks be to God!



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** (particularly peanut butter and chocolate varieties).

Once again we are in need of personal care items!! Please leave your contributions in the basket in the Narthex. During the month of December we provided several new cold-weather sleeping bags, and assembled food bags for the Church Door service at the office as well as for our Saturday Table guests. ***Thank you for your much-appreciated generosity.***

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

Women's Study Group will meet Saturday, January 13th at 10:00 am at Carol Wegner's Home, 1459 Laguna Rd., Santa Rosa. 707-829-8267; email: carolwegner@yahoo.com.

At this meeting we will preview our Lenten Study
*First Corinthians:
Living Love When We Disagree*
by Melissa Spoelstra.

JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

1/07 Pat Schoch

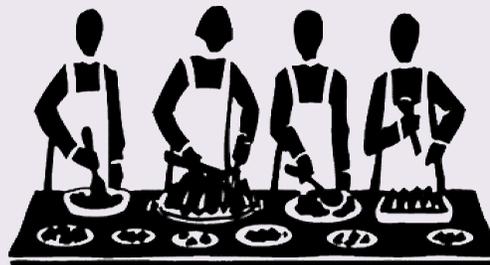
1/14 Florence Stone

1/21 (to be determined)

1/28 Loren Brueggemann

DIRECTORY UPDATE CONTINUES

We are moving right along with the 2018 SebUMC Member Directory! Thank you for filling out update forms and contacting the office with correct information. Please watch the Bulletins for delivery date... soon.



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.

- January Saturday Table is 1/27 •
- February Saturday Table is 2/24 •

Thank you to all who helped with the Saturday Table Lunch in December:

Thank you for bringing food: Jennie Cheshier, Karen Bohn, Beth Wakelee, Barbara Hansen, Betty Stychno, Pat Schoch and Dee Schilling and Dee's Granddaughter.

Those working at Saturday Table in December were Mark Reed, Barbara Hansen, Marlene Felsenfeld, Paul Schoch and Vi Moir.

Thank you for ordering sleeping bags and socks Vicki Amtower. Thanks to Leaf Roberts who ordered the food for the Church Door bags. Thanks to those who donated money to help with Saturday Table and those who donate food and money to support our church door ministry.

We served 10 meals to our guests and sent 4 meals out with our guests. We supplied each guest with a snack bag and a Christmas Bag.

DAILY READINGS FOR JANUARY 2018



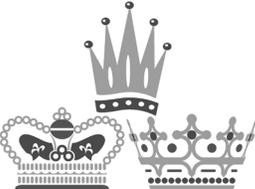
- Monday, January 1, 2018: New Year's Day
- Tuesday, January 2, 2018: Psalm 148; Proverbs 1:1-7; James 3:13-18
- Wednesday, January 3, 2018: Psalm 110; Proverbs 1:20-33; James 4:1-10
- Thursday, January 4, 2018: Psalm 110; Proverbs 3:1-12; James 4:11-17
- Friday, January 5, 2018: Psalm 110; Proverbs 22:1-9; Luke 6:27-31
- Saturday, January 6, 2018: Epiphany of the Lord
- Sunday, January 7, 2018: Baptism of the Lord
- Monday, January 8, 2018: Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36; Genesis 17:1-13; Romans 4:1-12
- Tuesday, January 9, 2018: Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36; Exodus 30:22-38; Acts 22:2-16
- Wednesday, January 10, 2018: Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36; Isaiah 41:14-20; John 1:29-34
- Thursday, January 11, 2018: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Judges 2:6-15; 2 Corinthians 10:1-11
- Friday, January 12, 2018: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Judges 2:16-23; Acts 13:16-25
- Saturday, January 13, 2018: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Samuel 2:21-25; Matthew 25:1-13
- Sunday, January 14, 2018: Second Sunday after the Epiphany
- Monday, January 15, 2018: Psalm 86; 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
- Tuesday, January 16, 2018: Psalm 86; 1 Samuel 15:10-31; Acts 5:1-11
- Wednesday, January 17, 2018: Psalm 86; Genesis 16:1-14; Luke 18:15-17
- Thursday, January 18, 2018: Psalm 62:5-12; Jeremiah 19:1-15; Revelation 18:11-20
- Friday, January 19, 2018: Psalm 62:5-12; Jeremiah 20:7-13; 2 Peter 3:1-7
- Saturday, January 20, 2018: Psalm 62:5-12; Jeremiah 20:14-18; Luke 10:13-16
- Sunday, January 21, 2018: Third Sunday after the Epiphany
- Monday, January 22, 2018: Psalm 46; Genesis 12:1-9; 1 Corinthians 7:17-24
- Tuesday, January 23, 2018: Psalm 46; Genesis 45:25-46:7; Acts 5:33-42
- Wednesday, January 24, 2018: Psalm 46; Proverbs 8:1-21; Mark 3:13-19a
- Thursday, January 25, 2018: Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 3:23-29; Romans 9:6-18
- Friday, January 26, 2018: Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 12:28-32; Revelation 2:12-17
- Saturday, January 27, 2018: Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 13:1-5; Matthew 8:28-9:1
- Sunday, January 28, 2018: Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
- Monday, January 29, 2018: Psalm 35:1-10; Numbers 22:1-21; Acts 21:17-26
- Tuesday, January 30, 2018: Psalm 35:1-10; Numbers 22:22-28; 1 Corinthians 7:32-40
- Wednesday, January 31, 2018: Psalm 35:1-10; Jeremiah 29:1-14; Mark 5:1-20



SEASON OF THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 2018

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Epiphany
7 Epiphany Sunday	8	9	10	11 Golden Rule Mission Team	12	13 Women's Study Group
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Golden Rule Worship Team	26	27 Saturday Table
28	29	30	31	• HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018 •		

SUBMISSIONS
FOR FEBRUARY
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!!