

The APPLESEED

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

BECOMING A BLESSED CHURCH

Purpose, Presence, & Power

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy -- Matthew 5:7

God is wonderful and loves us all, and there is nothing you and I can do about it. It is with gratefulness and humble privilege that we are at the halfway mark of this year. So far, we are all safe in our Lord's mighty care. It is not because we have done something right or just, but because the grace and mercy of our Father God is bountifully given to everyone. We are journeying in the season of Pentecost in which God has been revealed to us, through the Holy Spirit, as our comforter and Sustainer. His strength greatly influences our being. It is the Spirit of Truth that was promised to us to strengthen, empower, and enhance our faith in becoming children of God. As children of God we are blessed by his teaching to be merciful, especially to show mercy to those less fortunate than ourselves, to those in need of help and support, to those who do not look like us, to those who are marginalized, those who are suffering in our midst. We need to sympathize with them, not simply to feel pity, but to communicate concern readily and with cheerfulness. We need to show our affection and tenderness with a view to the glory of God who has shown mercy to all mankind.

God gave good counsel to those who had gone astray and gave them a chance to be restored; he forgives all sins and wrongdoings. He prays for us and comforts us -- it is said that he is the Good Shepherd. A good shepherd knows when his sheep go astray, and with his merciful might he brings them lovingly and joyfully back with love and joyfully to his flock. When we practice merciful behavior, Jesus promised that we would receive mercy in return. To show mercy is very delightful and desirable by God; it is a requirement for his followers to be merciful to others.

William Tyndale writes, "*To be merciful is to see the best in everything, to look through the fingers at many things and not make a grievous sin of every small trifle.*" When crises arose between Jesus's disciples and the Pharisees for breaking a law of the Sabbath, Jesus made sure that his teaching was heard louder than law, as in Matthew 12:6 and 7; But I tell you that something greater than the temple is here. "*If you had know what this means, I WANT MERCY AND NOT SACRIFICE.*" Mercy is very powerful, as it leads directly to forgiveness. Peter asked Jesus how many times to forgive someone (Matthew 18:21-35). In reply, Peter was told the parable of a king who settles accounts -- the king's mercy was greater than his servant's until he heard about the servant's lack of mercy for a lesser debt. Jesus's parallel to God the Heavenly Father stresses that God's forgiveness of us is tied directly to our forgiveness of others.

Be mindful that obtaining grace of mercy is from God through Christ alone which is free, abundant, and eternal. The supplies of mercy and grace regenerate endlessly, and to show mercy to others is blessed by the Almighty God, the Son, and the Holy Spirit as one.

Happy June everyone!



Pastor Lunisi Tovo

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

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

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 Meetings are May 10th, May 24th, & June 14th •

GARDENERS:

*Please start potting some plants
for our church Summer Sale*

(date to be announced)

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

*The next meeting of the
Women's Study Group will be
Saturday, June 9th*

10:00 a.m.

*at the home of Vickry Ness
7300 Lynch Road, Sebastopol
info: 707-824-9255*

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2018 GRADUATES!

THOMAS BRIDLER – Ridgeway High School
RYAN DAVIDSON – Willowside Middle School
JACK FRAENKLE – Appleblossom
FRANCISCO LOPEZ, JR. – SR Middle School
IVAN OST – B.A., University of Chicago
AMELIA SCHOCH – Hillcrest Middle School
JEANNIE STRANZL – Master's, Marquette U.
HARRISON SULLIVAN – Lawrence Cook MS

SATURDAY TABLE

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

- June Saturday Table is 6/23 •
- July Saturday Table is 7/28 •

A huge THANK YOU to all who helped in May!!
Our neighbors in need really appreciate your generosity.

SEBASTOPOL INTER-CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

The Pantry is open to serve people who are hungry or may need a little extra food each month to get by. Clients are asked to phone ahead (707-823-2483) before stopping by the Pantry on a *Monday, Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday between 10:00 am and noon* to collect a generous supply of fresh, local fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, and staple foods including meat, fish, pasta, grains, bread, beans, and soup.

The Pantry's mission is to serve residents of Sebastopol, Forestville, Graton, and the Bodega Bay area, but no-one will be turned away. Volunteers are needed, too!

Please call Karen Bohn (707-823-7963),
or send her an email message at
ekbohn@comcast.net for more information.

The Sebastopol UMC communion offering is shared each month by the Pantry and our own Church Door Ministry – THANK YOU to members for your continuing generosity.

JUNE WORSHIP LEADERS

6/3 Susan Kinder
6/10 Matt Witteman
6/17 Julie Barbic
6/24 Vicky Ness

AFRICA UNIVERSITY

On Palm Sunday this year there was a gathering of congregants, staff, and students from 16 United Methodist churches within a 100-mile radius of Mutare, Zimbabwe, where UMC's Africa University has a campus – it was dubbed "Africa University Sunday" and drew attendees not only from the area but from as far away as California – Bishop Minerva Cancaño was there! This was the first major UMC-AU event in Zimbabwe which involved members of the Board of Directors as speakers and worship leaders. On that Sunday they welcomed more than 1,000 worshippers who marched before service, shared fellowship, and learned more about the work going on in Africa University programs. By all accounts this event was a tremendous success, and the AU Board plans to expand Africa University Sunday to the capital city of Harare, as well as to other parts of Zimbabwe. Congratulations to the UMC-AU Board, to all of the participants, and to everyone all over the world who supports the vision and mission of AU (including Sebastopol UMC!).

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Mark and Claire Reed were married on June 12th, 1968, in San Rafael, California – fifty years ago! Since then, they have been blessed with three children – now 44, 40, and 36 years old – and three grandchildren aged 11 years, 3 years, and 6 months. There have also been six Labrador Retrievers and many different homes, including Sebastopol since 1997. They have also been members of Sebastopol UMC since 1997.

Please join Claire and Mark in celebrating their Golden Anniversary on Sunday, June 10th with cake in Epworthian Hall following morning worship service. Congratulations and all best wishes to the Reeds!

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

The Christian Women's Softball program is on! Open to all females ages 18 and older, no experience necessary. Call Pat Schoch for info, 707-823-3889.

SUMMER -FALL STUDY GROUP

Study Group will begin on Thursday, August 2nd at 3:00 pm and will meet on five consecutive Thursdays: 8/2, 9, 16, 23, 30. We will study the book & DVD ***Unafraid: Living with Hope in Uncertain Times*** by Adam Hamilton. If you need the book, please email carolwegner@yahoo.com

Happy Father's Day!
Sunday, June 17th

*Looking ahead
to July:*

HOT DOG LUNCH !!

*Sunday, July 8th after service... in Epworthian Hall, the Mission Team will once again hold its spectacular, ever-popular, Hot Dog Lunch fundraiser!
More details in the June bulletins (see info on p.4).*

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC !!

*Sunday, July 15th after service...
at Ragle Ranch Park
Details to follow in the June bulletins, too.*

FROM YOUR MISSION TEAM

It's almost time for the annual "Picnic in the Hall"... Mission Team's popular Hot Dog Lunch fundraiser! This year's event will be on SUNDAY, JULY 8TH, in Epworthian Hall right after morning worship. Hot dogs, salads, desserts, and beverages will be provided.

This event raises funds for one of Mission Team's most important projects: **UMCOR Hygiene Kits** – these essential kits are distributed in areas where natural and environmental disasters have disrupted normal life, where even simple bathing and oral care is difficult. Your contributions of hygiene kit supplies and money go directly to people in great need. **PLEASE SEE UPCOMING SUNDAY BULLETINS AND THE SebUMC WEBSITE FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE HYGIENE KITS.** In addition to the list at right -----> we will have a "shopping list" Bulletin insert with items and instructions, which you can use if you choose to purchase & donate hygiene kit supplies.

If you prefer to donate money to help support this project (your contributions will be used to pay for shipping supplies to UMCOR, as well as for purchasing items for the kits), you will find details of the how-and-when in the Bulletins, too.

THANK YOU for supporting this work, which truly helps people in great need. Come enjoy fabulous hot dogs and more, in the company of your friends, on July 8th.

DO YOU NEED A HAND AT HOME?

Do you need a hand in or around the home, or do you know someone who does? Help with cooking, cleaning, bathing, errands, appointments, perhaps other related tasks? Contact Pastor Tovo – she can help to put you in touch with someone who can assist you (please note, this is paid help).

Please send email to tovoiunisi@gmail.com
or call 707-823-5841

HYGIENE KIT

ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW
AND EXACTLY AS LISTED

do not wash any items

- 1 Hand Towel (15"x25" up to 17" x 27")
-- *No kitchen or microfiber towels
- 1 Washcloth
- 1 Comb - sturdy pocket size – must have 6 inches of teeth
- 1 Toenail or fingernail clipper
- 1 Bath-size soap (3oz bar or larger)
*No Ivory or Jergen's soap
*Do not remove from packaging
- 1 Adult toothbrush
*do not remove from packaging
*personal advertising not acceptable
- 10 adhesive bandages
*common household bandages acceptable
- 1 One-gallon size clear plastic re-sealable (ziplock) bag

\$2 per kit is needed for the cost of toothpaste and shipping.

Each kit has a value of \$12

Donations of complete kits OR donations of single items are welcome!

Donations by check should be made out to SUMC and clearly marked "hygiene kits"

Donations accepted during month of June and at the Hot Dog Lunch on July 8.

DAILY READINGS FOR JUNE 2018

- **Friday, June 1, 2018:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Samuel 1:19-27; Romans 8:31-39
OR Psalm 81:1-10; Leviticus 23:1-8; Romans 8:31-39
- **Saturday, June 2, 2018:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; John 7:19-24
OR Psalm 81:1-10; Leviticus 24:5-9; John 7:19-24
- **Sunday, June 3, 2018: Proper 4 (9)**
- **Monday, June 4, 2018:** Psalm 99; 1 Samuel 2:11-17; Romans 9:19-29
OR Psalm 78:1-4, 52-72; Exodus 16:13-26; Romans 9:19-29
- **Tuesday, June 5, 2018:** Psalm 99; 1 Samuel 2:18-21; Acts 15:1-5, 22-35
OR Psalm 78:1-4, 52-72; Exodus 16:27-36; Acts 15:1-5, 22-35
- **Wednesday, June 6, 2018:** Psalm 99; 1 Samuel 2:22-36; John 5:1-18
OR Psalm 78:1-4, 52-72; 1 Samuel 21:1-6; John 5:1-18
- **Thursday, June 7, 2018:** Psalm 138; 1 Samuel 4:1-22; 1 Peter 4:7-19
OR Psalm 130; Isaiah 28:9-13; 1 Peter 4:7-19
- **Friday, June 8, 2018:** Psalm 138; 1 Samuel 5:1-12; 2 Corinthians 5:1-5
OR Psalm 130; Deuteronomy 1:34-40; 2 Corinthians 5:1-5
- **Saturday, June 9, 2018:** Psalm 138; 1 Samuel 6:1-18; Luke 8:4-15
OR Psalm 130; Genesis 2:4b-14; Luke 8:4-15
- **Sunday, June 10, 2018: Proper 5 (10)**
- **Monday, June 11, 2018:** Psalm 108; 1 Samuel 7:3-15; Revelation 20:1-6
OR Psalm 74; 1 Samuel 16:14-23; Revelation 20:1-6
- **Tuesday, June 12, 2018:** Psalm 108; 1 Samuel 8:1-22; Revelation 20:7-15
OR Psalm 74; 1 Kings 18:17-40; Revelation 20:7-15
- **Wednesday, June 13, 2018:** Psalm 108; 1 Samuel 9:1-14; Luke 11:14-28
OR Psalm 74; Isaiah 26:16-27:1; Luke 11:14-28
- **Thursday, June 14, 2018:** Psalm 20; 1 Samuel 9:15-27; Hebrews 2:5-9
OR Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; Genesis 3:14-24; Hebrews 2:5-9
- **Friday, June 15, 2018:** Psalm 20; 1 Samuel 10:1-8; Hebrews 11:4-7
OR Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 1 Kings 10:26-11:8; Hebrews 11:4-7
- **Saturday, June 16, 2018:** Psalm 20; 1 Samuel 13:1-15a; Mark 4:1-20
OR Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Kings 14:1-14; Mark 4:1-20
- **Sunday, June 17, 2018: Proper 6 (11)**
- **Monday, June 18, 2018:** Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 13:23-14:23; Galatians 6:11-18
OR Psalm 52; Ezekiel 31:1-12; Galatians 6:11-18
- **Tuesday, June 19, 2018:** Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 15:10-23; Revelation 21:22-22:5
OR Psalm 52; Jeremiah 21:11-14; Revelation 21:22-22:5
- **Wednesday, June 20, 2018:** Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 15:24-31; Luke 6:43-45
OR Psalm 52; Jeremiah 22:1-9; Luke 6:43-45
- **Thursday, June 21, 2018:** Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 16:14-23; Acts 20:1-16
OR Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; Job 29:1-20; Acts 20:1-16
- **Friday, June 22, 2018:** Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5; Acts 21:1-16
OR Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; Job 29:21-30:15; Acts 21:1-16
- **Saturday, June 23, 2018:** Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 18:1-4; Luke 21:25-28
OR Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; Job 37:1-13; Luke 21:25-28
- **Sunday, June 24, 2018: Proper 7 (12)**
- **Monday, June 25, 2018:** Psalm 119:113-128; 1 Samuel 18:6-30; Acts 27:13-38
OR Psalm 65; Exodus 7:14-24; Acts 27:13-38
- **Tuesday, June 26, 2018:** Psalm 119:113-128; 1 Samuel 19:1-7; Acts 27:39-44
OR Psalm 65; Exodus 9:13-35; Acts 27:39-44
- **Wednesday, June 27, 2018:** Psalm 119:113-128; 1 Samuel 19:8-17; Mark 6:45-52
OR Psalm 65; Joshua 10:1-14; Mark 6:45-52
- **Thursday, June 28, 2018:** Psalm 130; 1 Samuel 19:18-24; 2 Corinthians 7:2-16
OR Psalm 30; Lamentations 1:16-22; 2 Corinthians 7:2-16
- **Friday, June 29, 2018:** Psalm 130; 1 Samuel 20:1-25; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7
OR Psalm 30; Lamentations 2:1-12; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7
- **Saturday, June 30, 2018:** Psalm 130; 1 Samuel 20:27-42; Luke 4:31-37
OR Psalm 30; Lamentations 2:18-22; Luke 4:31-37
- **Sunday, July 1, 2018: Proper 8 (13)**

PENTECOST · KINGDOMTIDE · SOLSTICE

JUNE 2018

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SAVE THE DATES! SUNDAY, JULY 8 = MISSION TEAM HOT DOG LUNCH SUNDAY JULY 15 = ANNUAL PICNIC AT RAGLE RANCH					1	2
3 Graduates Recognition	4	5	6	7	8	9 Women's Study Group
10	11	12	13	14 Mission Team Golden Rule	15	16 Highway 12 Litter Pick-Up
17 Father's Day	18	19	20	21 SUMMER!	22	23 Saturday Table
				CA-NV ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN MODESTO		
24	25	SUBMISSIONS FOR JULY APPLESEED DUE TODAY!		27	28 Golden Rule	29
PASTOR TOVO IS AWAY THIS WEEK ON A COURSE OF STUDY						



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SCRIP SALES SUPPORT SEB UMC! THANK YOU!!