

The APPLESEED

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

BECOMING A BLESSED CHURCH

Purpose, Presence, & Power

Blessed are those who hunger for righteousness, for they will be filled – Matthew 5:6

Welcome to the fifth month of 2018. God is always within us, and to praise him is all that we have. May is the month that is blessed with Mother's Day. I wish all Mothers a happy Mother's Day, with blessings upon blessings on each one of you. Mothers are the first image of love that babies see, when they are hungry, thirsty, and helpless. The face of Godly love shows full mercy in time of a baby's desperation for life. We are blessed with the love of our mothers which is deeply instilled in us, and we extend that motherly love to all whom we love the most. A mother's achievement in daily life fulfills the earthly needs of her children and ensures their survival.

Would it be wrong to say that Jesus had a motherly instinct in him when he was talking about this blessedness in disguise? – *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."* Starving for righteousness is a desperate need in those who are ready to be transformed through repentance. The first experience to contemplation is the face of love: unconditional love, without strings attached; the merciful love of forgiveness and freedom to survive. The sense of righteousness reflects holy living; holy living means always doing the right thing. Those who hunger for righteousness understand that they will be rewarded with blessings of fulfillment with more grace of God. Their faith is justified and shall be perfected in eternal life. Starving to right the wrongs, and reaching out for the spiritual wholeness in Christ, will be accomplished through God's grace. His grace is beyond our imagination and his love is immeasurable. A mother's love is rewarded by her family and children. King Lemuel, in the book of Proverbs, compliments his mother as a reflection to all mothers. The king depicts the mother/wife as the responsible head of the family: she provides food and clothing, engages in trade, and practices charity. On top of her physical beauty are intelligence, kindness, and religious-spiritual perspectives. Her main objective in virtue is to do the best she can, and that will earn her crown from all – husband, children, and God. She displays the characteristics of a soul hungering do her roles on the righteous path, with God in her life. The blessedness of those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled with the spirit of the Living God. *Abide in me and my words stay within you, and whatever you ask in Father's name will be given.*

WISHING ALL MOTHERS A WONDERFUL SUNDAY, ENJOY IT WITH YOUR FAMILY – AND LET THEM KNOW OF YOUR LOVE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

Blessings, Peace, & Grace –



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 •

the Russians are coming

*The St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble will perform during our Pentecost service on **Sunday, May 20th**, and will also sing during a special Coffee Hour luncheon after the service, in Epworthian Hall. Delicious dishes contributed by the Bell Choir and the Hospitality*

Committee will tempt you – the luncheon is a fundraiser for the Ensemble. Come join us for a fun and entertaining time and feast on a variety of goodies!

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

SPECIAL EVENT: we will gather in the Epworthian Hall kitchen to assemble Mother's Day bouquets on Saturday May 12th at 9:30 a.m.– no lunch. Anyone who has flowers or filler for the Mother's Day Bouquets is invited to drop them off at the kitchen door on the afternoon of Friday 5/11 or before 9:30 a.m. on Saturday 5/12. If you have flowers and need someone to pick them or pick them up, call Carol at 707-829- 8267. The next full WSG meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 9th, at the home of Vicky Ness.

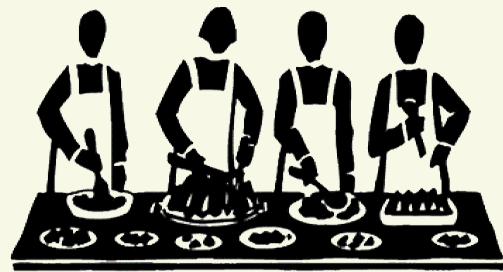
MAY WORSHIP LEADERS

5/06 Pastor Iunisi Tovo

5/13 Loren Brueggemann

5/20 Laura Williams

5/27 Vicky Ness



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.

- May Saturday Table is 5/26 •
- June Saturday Table is 6/23 •

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

The Holy Spirit is here!

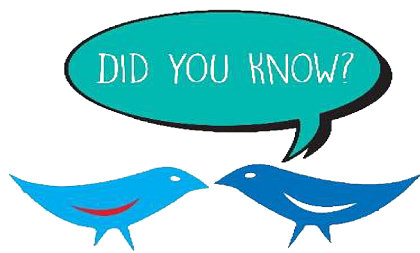
SEBASTOPOL INTER-CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

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.



... that Andre de Carvalho (at only 18 years old) is now a licensed pilot for private planes? He can now fly a plane with up to 6 passengers; his brother Paulo was one of his first passengers. Congratulations to Andre and the entire family who supported him to attain his goal...

... that Paulo de Carvalho traveled to New Orleans to perform with the Petaluma High School Band? Also, that the very Southwest Airlines plane which made an emergency landing, and lost one passenger, was the airplane scheduled to bring the band back to Petaluma? Thanks be to God for bringing the band back safely...

... that Kit Carson was librarian, through SCOE, for the Sonoma County Jail for 3 1/2 years? She had other interesting careers: film-making, the first operations engineer at KRCB, oil painting, and two college degrees. She is currently compiling notes for a book called *Tough Guy Book Club*, with stories from the jail year. She loves her current quieter life, with horse and dogs...

... that Ivan Ost is graduating from the University of Chicago on June 9th after just three years of study? His degree will be in political science with a minor in creative writing. Plans post-graduation are up in the air, but the most interesting prospect to him right now is being an editorial assistant at a publishing house in NYC. Congratulations, Ivan! What an accomplishment!...

... that India Wade and Michael Ost both played in the pit orchestra for the Anal High musical? India learned the bass clarinet and Mike filled in on piano. They had a blast! Wish we were there...

... that Jeannie Stranzl is graduating from Marquette University with a Master's Degree in Public Service this month. Congratulations to Jeannie and all best wishes!

We love to hear about all of you – please share your announcements or life experiences with me via the contact info below, or send to Ann R in the SebUMC office at sebumc@sonic.net. Thank you!

Marlene Felsenfeld phone: (707) 242-7605
marfels@sbcglobal.net

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.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION DAY

SebUMC will salute all graduating students on Sunday, June 3rd during worship. Please send names of your graduating loved ones to the church office by 5/30 !!

SUMMER -FALL STUDY GROUP

Study Group will begin again in August on five consecutive Thursdays – meeting time to be determined. Please let Carol Wegner know if you have a time that's best for you. We will study the book *Unafraid: Living in Uncertain Times* by Adam Hamilton.

Happy Mother's Day!

Sunday, May 13th

*Looking ahead
to July:*

HOT DOG LUNCH !!

Sunday, July 8th after service... in Epworthian Hall, we will once again hold our spectacular, ever-popular, Hot Dog Lunch fundraiser!

More details in the June Appleseed and in future bulletins.

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC !!

Sunday, July 15th after service...

at Ragle Ranch Park

Details to follow in the June Appleseed and in bulletins to come.

All Laity and Clergy are invited to attend the

2018 Los Rios District Conference

Saturday May 12 – Davis UMC (1620 Anderson Rd.)

Agenda

- 9:30am – Gathering
- 10:00am – Opening Worship, DS Schuyler Rhodes preaching
- 10:30am – Morning Workshops
- 12:30pm – Lunch and Fellowship
- 1:00pm – Signs of Hope, DS Schuyler Rhodes
- 2:00pm – Afternoon Workshops
- 3:30pm – Communion, Anointing, ACS delegates
- 4:00pm – Benediction and Departure

For more information and to Register: www.cnumc.org - resources - registrations - Los Rios District Conference

Morning Workshops

Trustees: The trustees are a crucial committee in any church. Come and learn more about the work of this committee – it is more than upkeep of church property. Bring your questions. Diane Knudson, Conference Treasurer, will be leading a workshop in English and Rev. Samuel Hong will be leading a workshop in Korean

Social Principle Revision: The Social Principles are a prayerful and thoughtful effort on the part of the General Conference to speak to the human issues in the contemporary world. The General Board of Church and Society has released a draft version of the Revised Social Principles. Come and learn about how this draft revision and how you and your congregation can participate in perfecting it. Led by Rev. Matthew Pearson

Building an Invitational Culture – Conversation with District Superintendent Schuyler Rhodes: What are ways that we minister with our community contexts? How do we edify the leaders that are in our congregations? How can we assist folks discerning a call to vocational ministry?

Afternoon Workshops

Family Systems: This workshop is an introduction to Family Systems Thinking. This method recognizes that each persons behavior is connected with behaviors of those around them. Those in Stephen Ministry, visitation ministries, support group ministries, or counseling ministries will benefit from this workshop led by Rev. Brandon Austin

Creating Safe Communities: Creating safe communities is ongoing and important work for any congregation. This workshop will explore how we can work to make sure that our churches are indeed safe spaces for all. Led by DS Schuyler Rhodes

Shared Facility/Shared Ministry: The Los Rios district is incredibly diverse. Some of our congregations are comprised of multiple ethnic and racial groups. This workshop will explore best practices for congregations to honor diversity while being unified in the mission of making disciples. Led by Rev. Tikiko Lesuma, Commission on Religion & Race.

Getting the Word Out: How does your congregation communicate the Good News in and beyond the walls of your church? This workshop will examine several ways your church can connect with and inform your membership and community. Led by Dr. Larry Hygh, Cal-NeV Communications director

Hope to see you there!

DAILY READINGS FOR MAY 2018



- **Tuesday, May 1, 2018:** Psalm 80; Isaiah 32:9-20; James 3:17-18
- **Wednesday, May 2, 2018:** Psalm 80; Isaiah 65:17-25; John 14:18-31
- **Thursday, May 3, 2018:** Psalm 98; Isaiah 49:5-6; Acts 10:1-34
- **Friday, May 4, 2018:** Psalm 98; Isaiah 42:5-9; Acts 10:34-43
- **Saturday, May 5, 2018:** Psalm 98; Deuteronomy 32:44-47; Mark 10:42-45
- **Sunday, May 6, 2018:** **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
- **Monday, May 7, 2018:** Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 7:1-11; I Timothy 6:11-12
- **Tuesday, May 8, 2018:** Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 11:1-17; I Timothy 6:13-16
- **Wednesday, May 9, 2018:** Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 11:18-21; Mark 16:19-20
- **Thursday, May 10, 2018:** **Ascension of the Lord**
- **Friday, May 11, 2018:** Psalm 47; Exodus 24:15-18; Revelation 1:9-18
- **Saturday, May 12, 2018:** Psalm 47; Deuteronomy 34:1-7; John 16:4-11
- **Sunday, May 13, 2018:** **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
- **Monday, May 14, 2018:** Psalm 115; Exodus 28:29-38; Philippians 1:3-11
- **Tuesday, May 15, 2018:** Psalm 115; Numbers 8:5-22; Titus 1:1-9
- **Wednesday, May 16, 2018:** Psalm 115; Ezra 9:5-15; John 16:16-24
- **Thursday, May 17, 2018:** Psalm 33:12-22; Genesis 2:4b-7; I Corinthians 15:42b-49
- **Friday, May 18, 2018:** Psalm 33:12-22; Job 37:1-13; I Corinthians 15:50-57
- **Saturday, May 19, 2018:** Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 15:6-11; John 7:37-39
- **Sunday, May 20, 2018:** **Day of Pentecost**
- **Monday, May 21, 2018:** Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Joel 2:18-29; I Corinthians 12:4-11

- **Tuesday, May 22, 2018:** Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Genesis 11:1-9; I Corinthians 12:12-27
- **Wednesday, May 23, 2018:** Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 20:19-23
- **Thursday, May 24, 2018:** Psalm 29; Isaiah 1:1-4, 16-20; Romans 8:1-8
- **Friday, May 25, 2018:** Psalm 29; Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 8:9-11
- **Saturday, May 26, 2018:** Psalm 29; Isaiah 5:15-24; John 15:18-20, 26-27
- **Sunday, May 27, 2018:** **Trinity Sunday**
- **Monday, May 28, 2018:** Psalm 20; Numbers 9:15-23; Revelation 4:1-8
- **Tuesday, May 29, 2018:** Psalm 20; Exodus 25:1-22; I Corinthians 2:1-10
- **Wednesday, May 30, 2018:** Psalm 20; Numbers 6:22-27; Mark 4:21-25

Note: For the readings after Pentecost: the first reading pairs with the semi-continuous strand of texts; the second, with the complementary.

- **Thursday, May 31, 2018:** **Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth**
- **Thursday, May 31, 2018:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; I Samuel 1:1-18; Acts 25:1-12
OR Psalm 81:1-10; Exodus 31:12-18; Acts 25:1-12
- **Friday, June 1, 2018:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; I 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; I 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)**



ASCENSION · PENTECOST · KINGDOMTIDE

MAY 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
SPRING JOY!						
6 6th Sunday of Easter	7	8	9	10 Golden Rule	11	12 Los Rios District Conference
13 7th wk of Easter: ASCENSION Mother's Day	14	15	WORSHIP TEAM Wednesday, May 16th, 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel		18	19
20 PENTECOST St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble & Benefit Lunch	21	22	23	24 Golden Rule	25	26 Saturday Table
27 KINGDOMTIDE Trinity Sunday	28 Memorial Day	29	30	31		-----> tomorrow... Sunday 6/3 GRADUATE RECOGNITION DAY !!

SUBMISSIONS FOR JUNE APPLESEED DUE TODAY!



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