

The APPLESEED

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

BECOMING A BLESSED CHURCH

Purpose, Presence, & Power

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God. – Matthew 5:9

Greetings and welcome to the ninth month of the year, with grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly place, just as he chose us in Christ, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before him in love. The foregoing words, by Apostle Paul to the Ephesians, reaffirmed the blessedness of those who have a faithful foundation in Christ. And these words reflect Jesus's teaching of his disciples, as written by Matthew in the early days of Jesus's ministry: "*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.*"

Peacemaking is a difficult task, with a result that can never be predicted. It takes a strong, intelligent, mature person to be successful at making peace. Peacemaking is about resolving differences through love, a love that is big enough to set both the oppressed and the oppressor free. Peacemakers encounter issues of personality, of respect (or the lack of it), and of differing mindsets including those of people without spiritual understanding. Peacemakers are those who pursue peace continuously, as in Psalm 34:14: "*Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace and pursue it.*" Peace was noted throughout the Old Testament as more than just the absence of strife; it meant personal and social well-being in the community. Later, Jesus's disciples brought to all their relationships a commitment to harmony and blessing. Some of the famous scholars, like Augustus, were praised as peacemakers, in particular peace connected to trust, love, and obedience to God. Typically in the Old Testament, references to "sons of God" implied angels or divine beings; in the New Testament, however, God calls them "his children," and the names God gives them are the names that finally stand. Peacemaking in Jesus's teaching referred to the angels who hailed his birth and sang of "peace on earth, strongly connected to love;" and, "... love your enemies, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them who despise you." Christ is the Prince of Peace – peace in the soul and peace among men. True peacemakers are rare. It is easier to fan the flames of a feud than to stave off warfare. It is known that a plea for peace and understanding is often a lonely cry, less often heeded than the base appeal to angry prejudice (the stock in trade of politicians) and by nonbelievers. Jesus made peace. He fashioned it from life and sacrifice, so his peace is true peace indeed. In Ephesians 2:14-16, we read: "*For he is our peace, in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.*" God favored those who exhibit, practice and engage in peace, with the reward of being called his children. God's blessings abound on all children of God.

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Pastor Iunisi Tovo

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

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GOLDEN RULE

Golden Rule meets on the 2nd and 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 9/13 • 9/27 • 10/11 • 10/25 •

Autumn
IS HERE!

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

(aka Power Women)

The next meeting of the Women's Study Group will be Saturday, September 8th, 10:00 a.m. at the home of Susan Kinder 1580 West Sexton Road, Sebastopol 707-823-2139 susankinder@comcast.net

Save the Date!

FAMILY ADVENT PARTY

Friday, December 7th

STARTING AT 6:00 PM

in Epworthian Hall

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.

- September Saturday Table is 9/22 •
- October Saturday Table is 10/27 •

A huge THANK YOU to all who help us to serve!! 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.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

- 9/2 Julie Barbic
- 9/9 Vicky Ness
- 9/16 Carol Wegner
- 9/23 Charlotte Fisher
- 9/30 Pat Schoch

LITTER PICKUP CONTRACT

The Sebastopol United Methodist Church has picked up litter along Highway 12 for the past five years on a regular basis as an example of service to the community. The crew that has been faithful for these years are still interested in helping out once and a while, but they are not ready to take on another five year commitment.

CalTrans supervises this beautification program throughout the state. They are responsible for assigning worksites, providing all equipment and supplies necessary for a successful clean up. They require that there is a responsible signatory for the contract and they also provide online training for each participant. All the church needs to supply is the people who are willing to go out and pick up debris left along the road by motorists.

If you are interested in being that responsible person to sign the contract, contact people who are interested in helping and then reporting your results by phone to the local CalTrans office, please contact the church office.

Community Bulletin Board

The bulletin board on the left wall of Epworthian Hall is for everyone to use for notices you want others to know about.

Stop by and see what others are posting.

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

WHERE HAVE ALL MY SCRIP BUYERS GONE?

With the activities of Summer winding down, it's time to think about what shopping needs to be done for Fall... If you are planning any large purchases, such as at Lowe's or Home Depot, we can order the SCRIP and our church will get the benefit! I'm also trying to clear out some gift cards that have been in my stash for a long time – does anyone have use for \$25 cards for J.C.Penney or Land's End? Call Pat Schoch with questions: 707-823-3889.

BUY SCRIP !!



To all of you for the donations, for your help in setting up for the “Rummage and Good Stuff” sale, for your help on the day of the sale, and for your help in cleaning up after the sale.

You helped to make this another successful event, very much appreciated by the buyers who came, many of whom were fire victims. We raised more than \$ 2200 to be used to repair the roof over our church kitchen.

You all came through as needed.
Thanks be to God.

DAILY READINGS • SEPTEMBER 2018

- Saturday, September 1, 2018: Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; Hosea 3:1-5; John 18:28-32 OR Psalm 15; Exodus 34:8-28; John 18:28-32
- Sunday, September 2, 2018: Proper 17 (22)
- Monday, September 3, 2018: Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 3:6-11; 1 Timothy 4:6-16 OR Psalm 106:1-6, 13-23, 47-48; Deuteronomy 4:9-14; 1 Timothy 4:6-16
- Tuesday, September 4, 2018: Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 5:2-6:3; 1 Peter 2:19-25 OR Psalm 106:1-6, 13-23, 47-48; Deuteronomy 4:15-20; 1 Peter 2:19-25
- Wednesday, September 5, 2018: Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 8:5-7; Mark 7:9-23 OR Psalm 106:1-6, 13-23, 47-48; Deuteronomy 4:21-40; Mark 7:9-23
- Thursday, September 6, 2018: Psalm 125; Proverbs 1:1-19; Romans 2:1-11 OR Psalm 146; Isaiah 30:27-33; Romans 2:1-11
- Friday, September 7, 2018: Psalm 125; Proverbs 4:10-27; Romans 2:12-16 OR Psalm 146; Isaiah 32:1-8; Romans 2:12-16
- Saturday, September 8, 2018: Psalm 125; Proverbs 8:1-31; Matthew 15:21-31 OR Psalm 146; Isaiah 33:1-9; Matthew 15:21-31
- Sunday, September 9, 2018: Proper 18 (23)
- Monday, September 10, 2018: Psalm 73:1-20; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; Hebrews 11:29-12:2 OR Isaiah 38:10-20; Joshua 6:1-21; Hebrews 11:29-12:2
- Tuesday, September 11, 2018: Psalm 73:1-20; Proverbs 11:1-31; Hebrews 12:3-13 OR Isaiah 38:10-20; Joshua 8:1-23; Hebrews 12:3-13
- Wednesday, September 12, 2018: Psalm 73:1-20; Proverbs 14:1-9; Matthew 17:14-21 OR Isaiah 38:10-20; Judges 15:9-20; Matthew 17:14-21
- Thursday, September 13, 2018: Psalm 19; Proverbs 15:1-17; Hebrews 11:17-22 OR Psalm 116:1-9; Joshua 2:1-14; Hebrews 11:17-22
- Friday, September 14, 2018: Psalm 19; Proverbs 19:24-29; James 2:17-26 OR Psalm 116:1-9; Joshua 2:15-24; James 2:17-26
- Saturday, September 15, 2018: Psalm 19; Proverbs 21:1-17; Matthew 21:23-32 OR Psalm 116:1-9; Joshua 6:22-27; Matthew 21:23-32
- Sunday, September 16, 2018: Proper 19 (24)
- Monday, September 17, 2018: Psalm 73:21-28; Proverbs 22:1-21; Romans 3:9-20 OR Psalm 119:169-176; 1 Kings 13:1-10; Romans 3:9-20
- Tuesday, September 18, 2018: Psalm 73:21-28; Proverbs 25:1-28; Colossians 3:1-11 OR Psalm 119:169-176; 1 Kings 13:11-25; Colossians 3:1-11
- Wednesday, September 19, 2018: Psalm 73:21-28; Proverbs 29:1-27; John 7:25-36 OR Psalm 119:169-176; Isaiah 10:12-20; John 7:25-36
- Thursday, September 20, 2018: Psalm 1; Proverbs 30:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 OR Psalm 54; Judges 6:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
- Friday, September 21, 2018: Psalm 1; Proverbs 30:18-33; Romans 11:25-32 OR Psalm 54; 1 Kings 22:24-40; Romans 11:25-32
- Saturday, September 22, 2018: Psalm 1; Ecclesiastes 1:1-18; Matthew 23:29-39 OR Psalm 54; 2 Kings 17:5-18; Matthew 23:29-39
- Sunday, September 23, 2018: Proper 20 (25)
- Monday, September 24, 2018: Psalm 128; Proverbs 27:1-27; James 4:8-17 OR Psalm 139:1-18; 2 Kings 5:1-14; James 4:8-17
- Tuesday, September 25, 2018: Psalm 128; Ecclesiastes 4:9-16; James 5:1-6 OR Psalm 139:1-18; 2 Kings 11:21-12:16; James 5:1-6
- Wednesday, September 26, 2018: Psalm 128; Ecclesiastes 5:1-20; John 8:21-38 OR Psalm 139:1-18; Jeremiah 1:4-10; John 8:21-38
- Thursday, September 27, 2018: Psalm 124; Esther 1:1-21; Acts 4:13-31 OR Psalm 19:7-14; Exodus 18:13-27; Acts 4:13-31
- Friday, September 28, 2018: Psalm 124; Esther 2:1-23; Acts 12:20-25 OR Psalm 19:7-14; Deuteronomy 1:1-18; Acts 12:20-25
- Saturday, September 29, 2018: Psalm 124; Esther 3:1-15; Matthew 5:13-20 OR Psalm 19:7-14; Deuteronomy 27:1-10; Matthew 5:13-20
- Sunday, September 30, 2018: Proper 21 (26)
- Monday, October 1, 2018: Psalm 140; Esther 4:1-17; 1 Peter 1:3-9 OR Psalm 5; Zechariah 6:9-15; 1 Peter 1:3-9



SEPTEMBER 2018

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Worship 10:30	3 LABOR DAY	4	5	6	7 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	8 Women's Study Group
PASTOR TOVO'S VACATION 9/4 THRU 9/17						
9 Worship 10:30	10	11 7pm Trustees	12 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	13 9:30 Mission Tm 11:30 Golden Rule	14 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	15
16 Worship 10:30	17	18	19 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	20	21 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	22 Saturday Table
23 Worship 10:30	24	25	26 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	27 11:30 Golden Rule 1pm Worship Tm	28 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	29
30 Worship 10:30	SUBMISSIONS FOR OCTOBER APPLESEED DUE TODAY!				<i>Autumn IS HERE!</i>	



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SCRIP SALES SUPPORT SEB UMC! THANK YOU!!