

The APPLESEED

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

BECOMING A BLESSED CHURCH

Purpose, Presence, & Power

Welcome to November and HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL FAMILIES.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. – Matthew 5:11-12

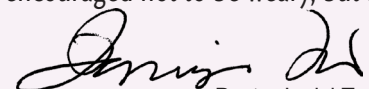
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. He embraced us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. *The living message (Word) of God is powerful and is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It judges the thought and attitudes of the heart. – Hebrews 4:12*

Our understanding of the Sermon on the Mount encompasses the new golden rules of the New Testament. Even though it is not written as “thou shall not” and “thou shall,” the new format is “blessed” for those who gain and possess the characteristics of God’s divine persona.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. The greatness of this teaching is showing of God’s favor (being blessed) will be upon those who act according to those principles. In spite of the hardship of individuals’ journeys, there is a reward for those who patiently endure the sufferings and hardships of pilgrimage primarily because of the truthful core of the word of God. When someone is called on to suffer for his Christianity, that is always a crucial moment of witnessing the clash between the earth and Christ, it is a drama between now and eternity. To share in such a moment is not a penalty but a glory. *“Rejoice at such a moment and be glad,”* says Jesus. It is a joy leaps for joy. William Barclay says, “It is the joy of a climber who has reached the summit, and who leaps for joy that the mountain path is conquered.” We can leap for joy!

In “becoming a blessed church,” our community of faith is beyond blessed, first with the grace of our Lord Almighty embracing each one of us; then by sharing his gracious wealth with the neighborhood. The faithful members of our congregation endure tremendous responsibility as handlers of word in action so others can be blessed with our blessed resources. The joy will be all ours, by looking through the good deeds done already, and it is like almost reaching the summit of 2018. We are still inspired by the word of God to aspire with His power in showing how our church became blessed and to bless others. Isn’t it true that where there is good, the Church is praised, where there is evil the Church is blamed? The Christian struggle and the Christian glory still exist. Again we are encouraged not to be weary, but in everything give it to God in prayer and love one another.

Blessings with the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!


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 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 11/8 • 12/13 • 12/27 •

The **Sebastopol Inter-Church Food Pantry** needs more volunteers on Saturdays from 10am to noon. Sign up for one or more Saturdays a month. It's possible for a family or a group of friends to volunteer together and have a great hands-on Mission experience while helping our neighbors in need.

Please contact Karen Bohn for more information: phone 707-823-7963; email ekbohn@comcast.net

THANK YOU!

ADVENT STUDY GROUP

Faithful:

Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph

Advent study begins on Thursday, November 29th and continues for four weeks – everyone is invited, men and women. Our text will be Adam Hamilton's *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*. Please let Carol Wegner know by November 6th if you plan to attend so that she can order books. Thank you!
carolwegner@yahoo.com 707-829-8267



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.

- November Saturday Table is 11/24 •
- December Saturday Table is 12/22 •

*THANK YOU to all who help us to serve!!
Our neighbors in need appreciate your generosity.*

SEBASTOPOL INTER-CHURCH FOOD PANTRY 2018 THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Three Sundays – November 4, 11, and 18

Once again we will help the Sebastopol Inter-Church Food Pantry to collect extra food for Thanksgiving and the Holiday season. On November 4th, 11th, and 18th, please place your donations on or near the altar. Suggestions are

**PACKAGED FOODS CANNED FOODS
PASTA SAUCES PEANUT BUTTER SOUPS**

Let's top last year's collection of food! We will also need help to load our contributions onto Karen Bohn's truck after worship service on the 18th.

**THANK YOU in advance
to all who can lend a hand.**

NOVEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

11/4 Carol Wegner

11/11 Florence Stone

11/18 Beth Wakelee

11/25 Vicky Ness

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.

UMCOR SAGER BROWN SALUTES SEB UMC

We recently received profuse THANKS from UMCOR Sager Brown in Louisiana for our donations of funds and HYGIENE KITS to help during times of national disaster – Seb UMC sent \$764.10 and a generous cache of supplies to make up the ever-important hygiene kits!

Thanks to our Mission Team for spearheading this important campaign once again.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO YOU ALL

• Advent is Coming •

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.

SCRIP NEWS

SEARS Scrip Available! Last chance for Sears bargains

Pat Schoch has \$325.00 worth of Scrip available to use at the soon-to-close Sears store!

Hunt for last-chance bargains while helping Sebastopol UMC!

*See Pat at Sunday service
or call her at 707-823-3889.*

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.**

ALTERNATIVE GIVING DECEMBER 2018

This Christmas holiday season, please consider giving family and friends an alternative gift. As has been our practice for a number of years, the Mission Team will make it possible to donate to 3 different needy causes, and you will receive a Christmas card to be used to describe the cause to the recipient. The Mission Team will be in Epworthian Hall after church to accept your donations and to provide more information about each cause following worship on November 25 and December 2, 9, and 16. This year's program causes are:

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

Heifer Project International has been operating for 70 years. Their mission is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty around the world. They are currently working in 25 countries. You can make a general donation to a variety of projects, or choose a meaningful gift that will give needy families appropriate training in farming and animal care that help them become self-reliant. A hallmark of their program is that families share the training they receive, and pass on the first female offspring of their gifted livestock to another family. For more information, see www.heifer.org.

SONOMA COUNTY RESILIENCE FUND

Established by Community Foundation Sonoma County after the fires of October 2017, this Fund is a disaster fund addressing our community's mid-to long term recovery needs. The fires affected people of all incomes and backgrounds. They are neighbors, the teachers in our schools, the construction workers building and remodeling our homes and the doctors and nurses caring for us. They are staff of our favorite restaurants, the nonprofit workers supporting our community, the landscapers and domestic workers taking care of our homes, and so many more.

"Without outside support, the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community will not be able to return to their homes, work, and lives. Investing in their unmet needs means taking care of the people who make this community a diverse and vibrant place to live."

SEBASTOPOL UMC "CHURCH DOOR"

Church Door donations support SUMC's work with the Sebastopol homeless population. These funds help buy needed items for the "Church Door" bags we distribute and pay for sleeping bags, socks, and rain ponchos for those in need. We also help purchase laundry vouchers which are distributed to the homeless. Some needed items for our monthly Saturday Table pasta lunch for the community are purchased as well.

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL

This year, as it has for the past 17 years, the Community Church of Sebastopol hosts a Thanksgiving Dinner for those without a family dinner to attend. All are welcome to dine, or to contribute so that others may have a holiday dinner. Dinner is from **1:00 to 4:00 pm on Thursday, November 22nd**, at 1000 Gravenstein Highway North (Highway 116), Sebastopol.

To contribute financially to the dinner, please make a check payable to **The Community Church Thanksgiving Fund, Tax ID# 94-2701408** and mail to P.O. Box 579, Sebastopol CA 95473-0579.

For more information, please call 707-823-2484.
Thank you!



DAILY READINGS

NOVEMBER 2018



- **Thursday, November 1, 2018: All Saints Day**
- **Friday, November 2, 2018:** Psalm 146; Ruth 2:1-9; Romans 3:21-31
OR Psalm 119:1-8; Leviticus 19:32-37; Romans 3:21-31
- **Saturday, November 3, 2018:** Psalm 146; Ruth 2:10-14; Luke 10:25-37
OR Psalm 119:1-8; Numbers 9:9-14; Luke 10:25-37
- **Sunday, November 4, 2018: Proper 26 (31)**
- **Monday, November 5, 2018:** Psalm 18:20-30; Ruth 2:15-23; Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10
OR Psalm 51; Deuteronomy 6:10-25; Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10
- **Tuesday, November 6, 2018:** Psalm 18:20-30; Ruth 3:1-7; Acts 7:17-29
OR Psalm 51; Deuteronomy 28:58-29:1; Acts 7:17-29
- **Wednesday, November 7, 2018:** Psalm 18:20-30; Ruth 3:8-18; John 13:31-35
OR Psalm 51; Micah 6:1-8; John 13:31-35
- **Thursday, November 8, 2018:** Psalm 127; Ruth 4:1-10; Romans 5:6-11
OR Psalm 146; Numbers 36:1-13; Romans 5:6-11
- **Friday, November 9, 2018:** Psalm 127; Ruth 4:11-17; Hebrews 9:15-24
OR Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 15:1-11; Hebrews 9:15-24
- **Saturday, November 10, 2018:** Psalm 127; Ruth 4:18-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24
OR Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 24:17-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24
- **Sunday, November 11, 2018: Proper 27 (32)**
- **Monday, November 12, 2018:** Psalm 113; Genesis 24:1-10; 1 Timothy 5:1-8
OR Psalm 94; Ruth 1:1-22; 1 Timothy 5:1-8
- **Tuesday, November 13, 2018:** Psalm 113; Genesis 24:11-27; 1 Timothy 5:9-16
OR Psalm 94; Ruth 3:14-4:6; 1 Timothy 5:9-16
- **Wednesday, November 14, 2018:** Psalm 113; Genesis 24:28-42; Luke 4:16-30
OR Psalm 94; Ruth 4:7-22; Luke 4:16-30
- **Thursday, November 15, 2018:** 1 Samuel 2:1-10; 1 Samuel 1:21-28; 1 Timothy 6:11-21
OR Psalm 16; Daniel 4:4-18; 1 Timothy 6:11-21
- **Friday, November 16, 2018:** 1 Samuel 2:1-10; 1 Samuel 2:18-21; Colossians 2:6-15
OR Psalm 16; Daniel 4:19-27; Colossians 2:6-15

- **Saturday, November 17, 2018:** 1 Samuel 2:1-10; 1 Samuel 3:1-18; Mark 12:1-12
OR Psalm 16; Daniel 4:28-37; Mark 12:1-12
- **Sunday, November 18, 2018: Proper 28 (33)**
- **Monday, November 19, 2018:** Psalm 3; 1 Samuel 3:19-4:2; Hebrews 10:26-31
OR Psalm 13; Daniel 8:1-14; Hebrews 10:26-31
- **Tuesday, November 20, 2018:** Psalm 3; Deuteronomy 26:5-10; Hebrews 10:32-39
OR Psalm 13; Daniel 8:15-27; Hebrews 10:32-39
- **Wednesday, November 21, 2018:** Psalm 3; 1 Kings 8:22-30; Mark 13:9-23
OR Psalm 13; Zechariah 12:1-13:1; Mark 13:9-23
- **Thursday, November 22, 2018:** Psalm 132:1-12; 2 Kings 22:1-10; Acts 7:54-8:1a
OR Psalm 93; Ezekiel 28:1-10; Acts 7:54-8:1a
- **Friday, November 23, 2018:** Psalm 132:1-12; 2 Kings 22:11-20; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
OR Psalm 93; Ezekiel 28:20-26; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
- **Saturday, November 24, 2018:** Psalm 132:1-12; 2 Kings 23:1-14; John 3:31-36
OR Psalm 93; Daniel 7:1-8, 15-18; John 3:31-36
- **Sunday, November 25, 2018: Reign of Christ - Proper 29 (34)**
- **Monday, November 26, 2018:** Psalm 63; 2 Kings 23:15-25; Revelation 11:1-14
OR Psalm 76; Daniel 7:19-27; Revelation 11:1-14
- **Tuesday, November 27, 2018:** Psalm 63; 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5; Revelation 11:15-19
OR Psalm 76; Ezekiel 29:1-12; Revelation 11:15-19
- **Wednesday, November 28, 2018:** Psalm 63; 2 Samuel 2:1-7; John 16:25-33
OR Psalm 76; Ezekiel 30:20-26; John 16:25-33

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

- **Thursday, November 29, 2018:** Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:6-15; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
- **Friday, November 30, 2018:** Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:16-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22
- **Saturday, December 1, 2018:** Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:26-31; Luke 21:20-24
- **Sunday, December 2, 2018: First Sunday of Advent**

NOVEMBER 2018

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR ON SUNDAY 11/4 !!				1 10:00 Worship Team	2 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	3
4 Worship 10:30 Thanksgiving Food Drive: 1	5	6	7 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	8 11:30 Golden Rule	9 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	10 Women's Study Group
11 Worship 10:30 Thanksgiving Food Drive: 2	12	13	14 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	15	16 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	17
18 Worship 10:30 Laity Sunday Thanksgiving Food Drive: 3	19	20	21 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	22 THANKSGIVING	23 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	24 Saturday Table
25 Worship 10:30 Alt. Giving: 1	26 <div style="background-color: #8e24aa; color: white; padding: 2px; transform: rotate(-5deg); display: inline-block;"> SUBMISSIONS FOR DECEMBER APPLESEED DUE TODAY! </div>	27	28 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	29 ADVENT STUDY week 1 of 4 3pm	30 <div style="background-color: #4b0082; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> NEXT WEEK! FAMILY ADVENT PARTY FRIDAY DECEMBER 7TH AT 6PM </div>	12/1



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SCRIP SALES SUPPORT SEB UMC! THANK YOU!!