

The APPLESEED

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

FROM MEMBERSHIP TO DISCIPLESHIP

“I have put my words in your mouth.” – Jeremiah 4:1-10

Welcome to the month of February, 2019.

Glory to God in the highest and with his goodwill to all mankind. It is a privilege to rejoice in the love of God, and we continue to be unequivocally glad in it. We are daily reminded by his word that we are always in one mission to the world with open hearts, open minds, and open souls. As a community of faith, we value diversity and celebrate differences as intentional acts of God’s creation. God’s love includes all people, so we welcome and include all, regardless of the differences between us. We will send no one away, and we will highly respect each person’s choices.

When moving from membership to discipleship, we are not armed with heavy weaponry to fight criticisms of discipleship, but we do have the Holy Spirit with us. The Holy Spirit empowers us to handle anything we are facing. Our choice is to stay the course with the Spirit of Truth and love within us, and all things can be handled according to God’s will. Where we see brokenness, we strive to pray and to face it with love, dignity, and grace.

Jeremiah the prophet, who was called before he was born, was sanctified and ordained as a prophet to the nation. His was a call that could not be refused. We read in scripture that Jeremiah tried to protest his calling because he couldn’t imagine how he might ever summon the power to follow it! In taking on a task that we don’t feel prepared to handle, we may feel afraid, unworthy, or weak; but God knows that you and I can endure it, and God will provide the strength and will we need to follow through. Jeremiah tried to abandon his calling, and was reminded, *“I will put my words in your mouth.”* Those words hugely influence and transform God’s people, as we have seen in many ways, in many eras. Those words will encourage people, yet may also destroy people. Those words can release people from bondage into life everlasting. Jesus repeated similar powerful rhetoric of the prophet Isaiah, *“the Spirit of the Lord has anointed me, to bring the good news to the poor”* – power of hope to break the cycle of lack of spiritual motivation to resist understanding love and hope. You and I can be excellent channels for repeating those hopeful and powerful words throughout our lives. Words matter! Saint Francis of Assisi said, *“Lord, make me the instrument of love and peace.”*

We may feel that our lives are overshadowed these days because of economic and political issues; however, we can bring light into the darkness of our lives by acting on the word of God and through his redeeming grace. We always have access to his word to protect and guide us. To reveal his light and his grace to others, we must arm ourselves with the harmony and grace of God’s love and take it out into the world – to those who have not heard it yet, or to those who have not been able to participate directly with us, or to those who feel unwelcome to join us in our fellowships. Build a good relationship with anyone you come in contact with. Make a promise that we can make a positive change or mark on someone this year. This could be the right time to envision a different approach in our discipleship. Let us look deeper into our hearts for ways to achieve this, because we are braver, stronger, and smarter than we realize. May the word of God continue to be heard now and forevermore.

Blessings,

Pastor Iunisi Tovo



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

2019 "SOUPER BOWL"

Your Mission Team has again decided to sponsor "Souper Bowl" during the month of February. 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 more than 5,000 clients each month. Nearly 40% of their clients are children. When available, about 1,500 cans of soup a month is given. 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. F.I.S.H. has served all of Sonoma County, including West County, for over 45 years. During that period, they have helped feed about 1,500,000 people. The only qualification to receive food 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.

– Dennis Hansen

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.

- **February Saturday Table is 2/23** •
- **March Saturday Table is 3/23** •

Vi's Saturday Table **Thank You** for January 2019:

"Thank you to everyone who helped with the Saturday Table Lunch on January 26th... Supplying food – Jennie Cheshier, Pat & Paul Schoch, Charlotte & Charlie Fisher, Betty Stychno, Karen Bohn, and Barbara Hansen. Those working at Saturday Table: Chris Beaty, Betty Stychno, Mark Reed, Jennie Cheshier, Barbara Hansen, and Vi Moir. We served nine meals to our guests and sent out seven meals. The next Saturday Table will be on February 23rd."
– Vi Moir

GOLDEN RULE

Golden Rule meets on the second and fourth 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 2/14 • 2/28 • 3/14** •

LENTEN STUDY GROUP

Simon Peter:

Flawed but Faithful Disciple

Our four-week Lenten Study course will begin on Thursday, March 14 and will continue on Thursday afternoons from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in the Chapel – everyone is invited – this is a group for adult men and women.

Our text will be Adam Hamilton's recent book, *Simon Peter: Faithful but Flawed Disciple*.

Order your book by February 15th!

Info: Carol Wegner
carolwegner@yahoo.com
707-829-8267

FEBRUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

- 2/3 Vicky Ness
- 2/10 Florence Stone
- 2/17 Julie Barbic
- 2/24 Pat Schoch
- 3/3 Carol Wegner

CHURCH DOOR

Church Door needs help with snack bags we give out. Thank you to all who support our Church Door program. We could use your support in the form of donations of the following items: Kellogg's NutriGrain Soft Bake Bars; juice boxes; cracker sandwiches with real peanut butter or cheese in the middle; individual applesauce; raisins or fruit cups. Any number of individual items we can put in the church door bags will be very appreciated. There is a basket in the Narthex for these items, or put your donations on the Epworthian Hall kitchen counter closest to the hall and we will put the items away. Thank you very much! – Vi Moir

HAPPY FEET · NEPAL

The Mission Team sent \$1,000 to support this amazing project! Thank you!

Last month, the Mission Team donated \$1000 to the Happy Feet program in Nepal. Katherine Parker, our UMC missionary in Nepal, reached out to us with information and a call for support. Through this program, children in Nepal with a club foot can receive surgery to correct the condition, giving them increased mobility, better health overall, and freedom from stigma.

The money donated came from a Clarence Miller Mission fund. Clarence Miller was a lifetime member of our church who served on many committees. He had a special interest in the children and youth, and was a member of the Mission Team for many years. When he passed away, he left an equal amount of money for the Youth and for the Mission Team. I'm sure he would be very pleased that part of the money he left is going to the Happy Feet program for children in need. – Vicki Amtower

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Ecumenical/Interfaith gathering
Santa Rosa First UMC -- Friday, March 1, 2019
from 1 to 3pm in their Sanctuary,
with a reception to follow in the McMullin Room.
info: www.wdp-usa.org

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

The next meeting of the Women's Study Group will be Saturday, February 9, at 10:00 am at the home of Pat Schoch
335 Sparkes Road, Sebastopol 95472
707-823-3889

At this meeting, Pam Cutter will lead the discussion.

Please call to let Pat know that you will attend.

LAY SERVANT TRAINING

Saturday, February 16
Please see Pastor Iunisi for information!

CHILI LUNCH COMING SOON

Sunday, March 17th – following worship

The Mission Team's annual (and always popular!) Chili Lunch fundraiser is coming – a delicious way to spend an afternoon! Choose from beef, chicken, turkey, or vegetarian chili, accompanied by salad, corn bread, French bread, & cookies. Delicious! This year's beneficiary will be announced in the March newsletter.

THE SEBASTOPOL INTER-CHURCH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOU!

Our congregation generously supports the Sebastopol Inter-Church Food Pantry, which gives a generous supply of food to anyone who needs assistance. The pantry is open Mon, Wed, Fri, & Saturday from 10am to noon, and is located behind St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 500 Robinson Rd, Sebastopol. The Pantry needs more shoppers, which are volunteers who drive to the Redwood Empire Food Bank in Santa Rosa, pick up food, and deliver it to the Pantry. We could use a couple more drivers for our team. Please call Karen Bohn at 707-823-7963 or 707-791-4186. Thank you!

2019 SEBASTOPOL UMC LAY OFFICERS

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Chair	Charlotte Fisher
Recording Secretary	Vicky Ness
Membership Secretary	Marlene Felsenfeld
Financial Secretary	Vicki Amtower
Finance Chair/Treasurer	John Williams
SPRC Co-Chairs	Barbara Stranzl/Vicky Ness
Board of Trustees Chairperson	<i>to be elected by the Trustees during their first meeting of the year</i>
Mission Team Chair	Vicki Amtower
Worship Team Chair	Carol Wegner
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Charlotte Fisher; alternate: Barbara Stranzl
Christian Education Chair	Mandy Lubiszewski
Youth Delegate	<i>to be determined</i>
At-Large	Jennie Cheshier, Julie Barbic, Susan Kinder, <i>Young Adult TBD</i>

TRUSTEES COMMITTEE

Chair	<i>to be elected by the committee members</i>
Class of 2019	Tamara Pisors, Patrick Munsch
Class of 2020	Charlie Fisher, John Magnoli
Class of 2021	Paul Schoch, Kaci Wegner

STAFF PARISH COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs	Barbara Stranzl/Vicky Ness
Class of 2019	Vicky Ness
Class of 2020	Hugh Bailey, Lisa Vanderboom
Class of 2021	Barbara Stranzl, Linda Coffee

FINANCE

Chair	John Williams
Members	Stanley Simpson, Jennie Cheshier, Vicki Amtower, Mandy Lubiszewski
Head Counter	Jennie Cheshier
Counters	Kaci Wegner, Carol Wegner, Pam Ensign, Joan Wilbur, Janice Magnoli

WORSHIP

Chair	Carol Wegner
Members	Vicky Ness, Barbara Stranzl, Julie Barbic, Martha Wade, Marlene Felsenfeld, Susan Kinder, Mandy Lubiszewski, Jim Johnson
Communion Stewards	Suzanne Bailey, Lydia Brueggemann
Ushers	Hugh Bailey, Charlie Fisher, Don Roberts, Linda Coffee, Patrick Munsch, Moses Ost, Suzanne Bailey

Acolytes	Sunday School
Sanctuary Décor	Martha Wade

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM

Chair	Mandy Lubiszewski
Sunday School Superintendent	Kaci Wegner
Sunday School Teachers	Lydia Brueggeman, Moses Ost
Members at Large	Vicky Ness, Gabe Yazzolino, Barbara Stranzl

MISSION TEAM

Chair	Vicki Amtower
F.I.S.H.	Dennis Hansen
Scrip Task Force	Pat Schoch, Janice Magnoli
Inter-church Food Pantry, UMCOR	Karen Bohn
Church Door Ministry	Vi Moir, Sally Rose
Interfaith Ministry	Lisa Vanderboom
Saturday Table	Vi Moir
Alternative Giving	Vicki Amtower
HEIFER Project Intl.	Mary Blom
Fundraiser Luncheons	Marlene Felsenfeld
Golden Rule/Shut-Ins	Julie Barbic
Human Trafficking	Lisa Vanderboom
Members at Large	Leaf Roberts, WCHA Reps

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Lay Delegate	Charlotte Fisher
Alternate	Barbara Stranzl

HOSPITALITY/KITCHEN

Chair	Susan Kinder
Members	Susan Kinder, Jennie Cheshier, Vicki Amtower

CHURCH HISTORIAN

Julie Barbic

LAY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chair	(Nomination) Pastor Iunisi Tovo
Members	Charlotte Fisher, Vicky Ness, Barbara Stranzl, Carol Wegner, Vicki Amtower, Marlene Felsenfeld, Susan Kinder, Janice Magnoli

BURBANK HEIGHTS & ORCHARDS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (3 members)

Paul Schoch
Charlie Fisher
Dee Schilling

Thank You!

DAILY READINGS

FEBRUARY 2019



- Friday, February 1, 2019: Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 35:20-27; Acts 19:1-10
- Saturday, February 2, 2019: Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 36:11-21; John 1:43-51
- Sunday, February 3, 2019: Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
- Monday, February 4, 2019: Psalm 56; 1 Kings 17:8-16; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16
- Tuesday, February 5, 2019: Psalm 56; 2 Kings 5:1-14; 1 Corinthians 14:13-25
- Wednesday, February 6, 2019: Psalm 56; Jeremiah 1:11-19; Luke 19:41-44
- Thursday, February 7, 2019: Psalm 138; Numbers 20:22-29; Acts 9:19b-25
- Friday, February 8, 2019: Psalm 138; Numbers 27:12-23; Acts 9:26-31
- Saturday, February 9, 2019: Psalm 138; Judges 3:7-11; Luke 4:42-44
- Sunday, February 10, 2019: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
- Monday, February 11, 2019: Psalm 115; Judges 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 14:26-40
- Tuesday, February 12, 2019: Psalm 115; 1 Samuel 9:15-10:1b; 1 Timothy 3:1-9
- Wednesday, February 13, 2019: Psalm 115; Isaiah 8:1-15; Luke 5:27-32
- Thursday, February 14, 2019: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 13:12-19; Acts 13:26-34
- Friday, February 15, 2019: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 13:20-27; 1 Peter 1:17-2:1
- Saturday, February 16, 2019: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 17:1-4; Luke 11:24-28
- Sunday, February 17, 2019: Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
- Monday, February 18, 2019: Psalm 120; 2 Kings 24:18-25:21; 1 Corinthians 15:20-34
- Tuesday, February 19, 2019: Psalm 120; Ezra 1:1-11; 2 Corinthians 1:12-19
- Wednesday, February 20, 2019: Psalm 120; Jeremiah 22:11-17; Luke 11:37-52
- Thursday, February 21, 2019: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Genesis 43:16-34; Romans 8:1-11
- Friday, February 22, 2019: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Genesis 44:1-17; 1 John 2:12-17
- Saturday, February 23, 2019: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Genesis 44:18-34; Luke 12:57-59
- Sunday, February 24, 2019: Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
- Monday, February 25, 2019: Psalm 38; Genesis 33:1-17; 1 Corinthians 11:2-16
- Tuesday, February 26, 2019: Psalm 38; 1 Samuel 24:1-22; 1 Corinthians 11:17-22, 27-33
- Wednesday, February 27, 2019: Psalm 38; Leviticus 5:1-13; Luke 17:1-4
- Thursday, February 28, 2019: Psalm 99; Deuteronomy 9:1-5; Acts 3:11-16
- Friday, March 1, 2019: Psalm 99; Deuteronomy 9:6-14; Acts 10:1-8
- Saturday, March 2, 2019: Psalm 99; Deuteronomy 9:15-24; Luke 10:21-24
- Sunday, March 3, 2019: Transfiguration Sunday



FEBRUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MISSION TEAM "SOUPER BOWL" IS ON!					1 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	2 LOS RIOS DISTRICT REVIVAL in Davis
3 Worship 10:30 COMMUNION	4	5	6 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	7	8 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	9 10:00 am WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP
10 Worship 10:30	11	12	13 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	14 11:30 am Golden Rule 1:00 pm Worship Team	15 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	16 LAY SERVANT TRAINING
17 Worship 10:30	18	19	20 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	21	22 Open Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	23 Saturday Table
24 Worship 10:30	25	26	27 Centering Prayer 12-1pm Sanctuary	28	3/1 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER at Santa Rosa 1st UMC 1-3pm	3/2

SEND YOUR
SUBMISSIONS
FOR THE NEXT
APPLESEED!

· WE MOVE TOWARD LENT ·

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!!